

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1887.

The Week.

AN idea has gained currency that since a new bank in this city has conceived the plan of taking silver bullion on storage and issuing warehouse receipts for it, and since the Stock Exchange has voted or may vote to list these receipts and have them "called" from day to day, therefore New York will soon "control the silver market of the world." What is meant by controlling the silver market is not quite clear. What would be the gain to us if we should achieve this distinction is not stated. The silver market is at the present time controlled by India, that being the country which uses silver more than any other. The quotation made in London for bar silver is the resultant of the Indian demand—expressed by the regular auction sales of India Council bills or drafts on Calcutta and Bombay. These drafts enable the buyer of goods in India to meet his obligation payable in silver rupees. We get our quotation of silver from London, and London gets hers from the sale of Council bills, and these sales are dependent upon the state of trade with India, in the same way that the price of sterling exchange here is dependent upon the state of trade between us and the Old World. This state of things will continue after the warehousing of silver bullion and the listing of silver warehouse receipts begins, as before. Nevertheless there are some advantages to be gained by the proposed system, because it will save time and labor in the transfer of property.

In filling the important office of the new Circuit Judgeship for this district created by the last Congress, the President has made another appointment which extorts the heartiest commendation from even his most bitter political opponents. We are quite content to adopt as our own the comments of the *Tribune*, which says: "President Cleveland's appointment of Mr. E. Henry Lacombe to the office of United States Circuit Judge is a commendable one. Such an addition to the Federal Judiciary will be approved by the bar as well as by the public at large. Mr. Lacombe will add strength and dignity to the bench of this circuit. He has shown himself to be well fitted by temperament, character, and legal ability for this promotion. The only thing that can be said against it is that it takes away from the city a public officer whose duty has been so well done as to make his removal a loss to the public service."

The Blaine idea of public office is admirably illustrated in the comments of that typical Blaine newspaper, the *Philadelphia Press*, upon the appointment of Mr. Andrew H. Dill as United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Philadelphia. The *Press* concedes that Mr. Dill has every qualification to fill the office with the highest credit: "The President has certainly named a man big enough for

the office," it says. "But," adds the *Press*, "it is not an appointment to vitalize the party," inasmuch as "Mr. Dill will not make that active, every-day political use of the office that some of those urged for the place would have done." The Republicans made a thorough trial of the theory of "vitalizing the party" by having servants of the public "make active, every-day political use of their offices," in 1884, and Mr. Blaine himself endorsed this theory, in the most conspicuous way possible, by "toting" the Postmaster of Augusta, Me., around the country with him as his personal attendant, and taking the United States District Attorney for the Brooklyn district in his train on a stump-speaking tour. But the party did not appear to have quite so much vitality when it was all over as it had possessed twenty-four years before, when it had no offices to make use of.

Senator Ingalls of Kansas is credited with having recently made this remark: "I have no hesitancy in saying that granting the right of suffrage to the colored people has proven an absolute and unqualified failure." From the standpoint of the Republican politician, this is a correct statement of the case. The negroes were given the suffrage upon the theory that they would all vote with the Republican party, and would thus keep that party indefinitely in power in the Southern States, and by consequence in the nation. This theory has utterly broken down, and to-day every Southern State is controlled by the Democracy. The trouble is that the theory presupposed that the intelligent whites would consent indefinitely to be ruled by a mass of ignorance, which was impossible. The Republicans expected that negroes, not one in a hundred of whom could read his ballot, would have Republican ballots put in their hands by carpet-bag leaders and be conducted to the polls in droves like cattle, there to outvote the whites, who included ninety-nine-hundredths of the intelligence and owned ninety-nine-hundredths of the property. Intelligence and property revolted; as was inevitable if civilization were to be preserved. The Supreme Court, with all but one of its judges Republicans, has virtually decided that the Federal power cannot be employed to impose the rule of ignorance upon a State. It is settled that the negroes will never again vote as they once voted, like beasts, who were to be counted as always solid for one party because of the color of their skin. Gen. Armstrong of Hampton, during his recent tour through the South, found that the more intelligent blacks do not want to see that day return. As the negroes gain in intelligence they will find their votes sought by rival parties among the whites, as is the case to-day in Texas, and ultimately they will come to vote as generally as the whites; but when that happens they will divide their votes like the whites, and they will resent as white men would do the assumption that they can be counted as solid for any party simply because of their color.

Signs of the breaking down of the color line

in politics multiply. A Richmond despatch to the *Tribune* says of the county elections in Virginia on Friday: "In many counties colored men voted with the Democrats, and the Republican party gained many white votes." In Texas, both sides are working hard for the colored vote in the canvass over the prohibition amendment. The advocates of the measures claim that the intelligent negroes as a rule are on their side, but the Opposition are fooling many of the ignorant by telling them that prohibition is only the first step towards putting them back into slavery. Thus, the *San Antonio Republican*, which says to Republicans generally, "Stand as one man and vote against prohibition," makes a special appeal to the negroes with such balderdash as this: "Let the colored people keep their heads out of the prohibition snare. They have a long and tedious road to travel to secure their personal liberty without joining in with the Prohibitionists to curtail the liberty of their fellow citizens. Suppose the Legislature should pass a law declaring that no colored person of African descent should be allowed to enter a saloon, and any saloonist who sold such African-blooded citizen a drink would be subject to fine and imprisonment, what would the men among the colored people think of it? And yet that is prohibition, pure and simple."

Verily, these are strange times in politics, and distressing for the old fogies, who keep on talking the same old partisan rubbish. "The public must look to the Republican party for this work in behalf of moral purity and righteousness, as it has looked for so many others to the same source," said Senator Hoar of Massachusetts in his letter to the anti-saloon meeting in this city on Wednesday week. But the *San Antonio Republican*, the Texas organ of the party whose name it bears, in a vigorous editorial article on the situation in that State uses this language: "We say to Republicans over Texas, stand as one man and vote against prohibition." In the same letter Senator Hoar said: "Certainly it can look for no help to that party which is, and so long has been, supported and controlled by the liquor-selling interest of this country." But a Waco correspondent of the *Voice* writes that the leading Democrats of Texas, including Senator Reagan, ex-Senator Maxey, and a majority of the Democratic Representatives in Congress, have declared for the amendment, and adds: "Who will deny that if the leading Republicans of Michigan had favored prohibition as the leading Democrats of Texas are favoring it, the amendment would have been adopted?"

King Alcohol must have been terribly alarmed when he saw the list of Vice-Presidents of the Anti-Saloon Republican meeting at Cooper Institute last week, but he probably recovered himself afterwards. A better array of names could not be drawn out of the census of New York. If we can imagine these gentlemen as fired with one idea in the same way that the anti-slavery men were fired in times gone by, and as Judge

Davis advised them to be fired at the meeting, we should say that Sheridan Shook and the Republican saloon-keepers had best beat a hasty retreat out of this city and State, because they would surely lose "the protection to which they are entitled." But since no such firing has taken place or can take place in a party-organized and built up for different ends, the danger to the saloonists is not so alarming as the list of Vice-Presidents would make it appear. It is not for us to throw cold water upon the cold-water army, but, speaking plainly, we do not recognize in this assemblage anything more destructive to the forces of King Alcohol than a pious opinion that there is too much drinking in the community, and a solemn conviction that the Republican party ought to fight the liquor-sellers enough to satisfy the Prohibitionists, but not enough to lose many votes in the next election. The resolutions adopted by the meeting demand prohibition of the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia and in the Territories, and pledge the Republican party to the enforcement of whatever ordinances, statutes, or constitutional amendments may be adopted in the several States to restrict or suppress that traffic. The meeting declared itself in favor of the submission of prohibition amendments to the people, but did not declare itself in favor of their adoption. Why not? Why demand prohibition in the District of Columbia and in the Territories, and not in the States, unless for the reason that the District of Columbia and the Territories do not vote in a Presidential election?

The temperance question seems to have been definitely settled in Switzerland by the result of the popular vote, or *referendum*, as it is called, taken on the 15th instant, on the Federal law giving the Government the sole right to manufacture and sell spirituous liquors. The law has been approved by a vote of 252,791 to 127,474. This is doubtless to the American Prohibitionists an awful piece of legislation, as engaging the Government in a criminal enterprise, but the Swiss people, who have been for some years back wrestling with the liquor question, owing to the terrible increase of drunkenness in the Cantons, have concluded that in no other way can they so effectively diminish the quantity of liquor consumed, and at the same time secure the purity of what is consumed. Of course they could not reach this conclusion by starting from the great premise of our Prohibitionists that liquor-dealing and murder are in the eye of the moralist exactly the same thing. They reach it by starting from the premise, which is that of the great majority of rational men, that the moderate consumption of alcoholic drinks, even if it be a physiological mistake, is not in itself an offence against the community, and that it is the excessive consumption which society has to complain of, and is bound to repress, until the individual man has learned that his wisest course is to abstain wholly.

Mr. Tom Platt's letter to the Governor offering to resign the office of Quarantine Commissioner, if he (the Governor) would agree to appoint Col. Fred. Grant in his place, is interesting as an exhibition of cheek, but upon

the whole it had been best left unwritten. Platt's strong point is silence. His strength is all latent strength. Now he has come out of his enchanted castle and declared himself, and invited public inspection. Naturally the first thing he tells is an untruth, viz.:

"Now that the Legislature has adjourned, and the Republican Senate has refused to be frightened by the howls of the Bourbons or the shrieks of the Mugwumps into delivering over the Quarantine Department to Democratic control, and have declined to confirm the successor you name for my place as Commissioner of Quarantine, permit me to offer a few facts, and to submit a proposition, that may tend in some degree to mitigate the disappointment which this result may have occasioned."

It is, however, notorious that the Governor, by nominating two straight Republicans and one Democrat as Quarantine Commissioners, put his opponents in a hole, and made it impossible for anybody to charge that he was seeking to put the office under Democratic control, or if anybody should so charge, made it easy to prove them to be liars. Mr. Platt has walked into the hole with the intrepidity of a veteran. The Governor says that two and one make three. Platt rejoins that it is no such thing, and that he will prove it by resigning his hold-over office if the Governor will agree to appoint a particular person to the vacancy. Of course such an agreement must be in writing, and that would look so funny, being the first and only agreement of the kind on record, that Platt must have been convinced that the Governor would never make the bargain in that way. The offer is therefore extremely cheap in appearance, but we think it will prove costly in the long run, since it shows that Platt has lost the power of holding his tongue.

The Governor's unofficial response to Tom Platt's impudent letter is a very neat and effective use of the fine opportunity which Platt had given him. "I must decline," says the Governor, "to give any assurance or engage in any dicker in reference to this or any other office." If Platt had half the cunning with which he is credited, he would have foreseen that so quick-witted a politician as Gov. Hill is would make precisely that response; but he has fallen a victim to the force of habit. He has become so accustomed to dickering in private, and to looking upon public office, not as a public trust, but as a private, personal concern, that he forgot entirely that other people did not share his views. The most striking aspect of his letter is the frankness with which he lets it appear that he looks upon the office which he holds as primarily a basis upon which to make a "bargain" or a "deal." "Come, I'll trade with you for it," he says to the Governor, and is so impressed with his own smartness that he does not for a moment suspect that the people of the State may not like his way of using one of their public offices. He has actually given David B. Hill an opportunity to pose before the public as a stern enemy of "deals" and "dickers." After that we do not see how anybody can ever again call Platt a shrewd politician.

By their failure to act upon the Quarantine appointments, the Republicans have succeeded in offsetting the Democrats of the

Legislature for their vote to repeal the Civil-Service Law. It will be useless for the Republicans to point to the Democratic vote as a proof of the latter party's hostility to civil-service reform, after this Republican action keeping bad men in office for years after their terms have expired. The notorious fact that the politicians of both parties have no sympathy with the reform, was never more clearly illustrated than by these two acts. Yet we presume that the Republican politicians and newspapers will go on denouncing the Cleveland Administration for its "humbugging pretensions" about civil service reform with as much vigor as ever. In fact, the only war-cry which the Republican party has in sight now for the fall campaign, besides this denunciation of the Cleveland Administration, is "Down with the Mugwumps." The old delusion that a Mugwump's vote does not count on election day appears still, in spite of repeated disasters, to possess a large number of the party leaders. And yet we have to see a politician whose opinion is worth anything who will not confess, when closely pushed, that there were never so many Independents abroad in the land as now.

We believe it was that eminent economist, the late Artemas Ward, who remarked that "In the midst of life we are in debt," a destiny pathetically sure for most of us. The select few of the "coupon-clippers" may escape it, but for them, it seems, peculiar dangers lurk. That a man should be in bodily peril while engaged in cutting off coupons seems absurd at first sight; but Mr. Alpheus Hardy of Boston last week, while engaged in that gentle exercise in the Union Safe Deposit Vaults, dropped upon his leg the scissors which he was using, inflicting a severe cut, which had to be sewed up. This accident need not operate to deter anybody from industry and thrift, because it will appear on reflection that a capitalist may hire persons to cut his coupons, or the safe-deposit companies may introduce machinery proper for the purpose. Still, these things must cost money, which will be so much clear deduction from capital, increasing therefore in a minute degree the difficulty of getting rich, and putting a new obstacle in the way of Dr. McGlynn's Anti-Poverty Society.

The confession of Canon Fleming that he helped himself from a sermon of our Dr. Talmage's by "inadvertence," is one of the most humiliating admissions of recent times. We have always considered that listening to the Brooklyn divine in a pew half an hour or so was as much as any educated man ever did, and something which but few educated men have ever done more than once. But it would seem that Canon Fleming not only reads Talmage in his study, but reads him pen in hand, and laboriously makes extracts from him as one might from any of the great masters of thought. This is, in theological circles, a descent which we can only compare to the campaign charge which in politics used for some years after the war to be freely made against Democratic candidates — of having driven a one-armed soldier with curses from

his door, or cheated a blind freedman out of a small mule. The preacher who would steal from Talmage is in fact, in that line, as Voltaire said of Habakkuk, "capable de tout."

The London *Spectator* lately printed a paper on Jewish pauperism which showed an enormous disproportion of poverty in the Jewish community of the British metropolis. It has now, by way of contrast, assembled figures bearing on the incomes of the richer members of that community, with the result of showing a similar disproportion of wealth. Indeed, the preponderance of poor at one end is more than balanced by an excess of wealth at the other end of the Jewish social scale. The *Spectator* says that the figures which it gives "are based upon an extremely able series of papers published in the leading organ of the Jewish community three years ago. They are the result of a series of investigations made by the most careful statistician in the synagogue, a gentleman who occupies a semi-official position, and who had access to every available source of information." They are, of course, only approximate, but the Jewish community in London is very small (under 50,000 persons), and there is no difficulty in arriving at the "least" amount of income possessed in most cases. The *Spectator's* tables show that, at the very least, the total income of the London Jewish community, divided equally among its members, must amount to £82 per head, whereas the average throughout the United Kingdom is but £35 per head. "So that at the very lowest computation the Jews have per head about two and a half times as much money as the non-Jewish residents of the country. They form, to put it in another way, a seven-hundred-and-fiftieth of the population, but have between them about a three-hundredth of the total wealth." And comparing the ratio of large incomes to population, the great preponderance of rich people among the Jews becomes evident. Thus, collating Prof. Leone Levi's tables ('Wages and Earnings,' 1885), which are based on the Income-Tax Commissioners' Returns, with the figures quoted by the *Spectator*, the following results appear, tabulated so as to show at a glance the proportion of incomes in the case of the Jews and the community generally:

Incomes	Number per 50,000, over	Number per 50,000, over
£10,000	4.5	100
1,000	85	1,400
500	150	800
200	785	3,200

That is, among the Jews, those having over £10,000 annually are more than twenty times as many in proportion to population as are found in the community generally; those having over £1,000 are nearly seventeen times as many; those with over £500 are more than five times, and those with over £200 are more than four times, as many.

This is very interesting; but the *Spectator* goes on to deal with the obvious fact that among the Jews "the ratio of incomes rises as the incomes rise, and the superiority of the Jew over the non-Jew is more marked in the larger amounts than in the smaller. Taking incomes in proportion to families, we get results

more striking still. For the United Kingdom, we get one income of £10,000 in every 2,500 families; among Jews, one in every 100 families. The community at large has one income of over £1,000 to every 130 families; the Jews, one to every 7 families. The United Kingdom counts one income of over £500 to every 75 families; the Jews have one in every 12 families. The whole of the country reckons one income over £200 for every 14 families, while the Jews can claim one in every 3 families." The singularly disproportionate share of the Jewish working classes appears from the fact that whereas in the general community quite one-third of the annual income of the country is derived from the "laboring" people, only about one-twenty-fourth is derived from that class among the Jews, who yet on the other hand exhibit one thirty-fifth of the total number of incomes over £10,000 in a general community of which they form only one seven-hundred-and-fiftieth part. The *Spectator's* table, it is to be observed, which is topped with a simple "over £10,000," takes no account of the Jewish millionaires, the four Rothschilds and Sir Julian Goldsmid, or others of lesser but still great fortunes, like De Worms, Bischoffsheim, Goldschmidt, etc., inclusion of whom would bring the average far beyond the "safe" computation actually used, and would show an average income per head among the London Jews nearly three times as great as the common average of Great Britain. Whatever else the disproportion at the lower end of the scale may signify, we believe that, to the credit of our Jewish brethren, it does not imply unusual suffering, and the disproportion at the other end certainly indicates peculiar genius for business affairs.

It is almost useless to speculate about or comment on the new French Cabinet. It is essentially an *omnium gatherum* affair, made up rather of men who will not refuse office than of men who want it, or are expected to take it by the public. The weak point in it is the Minister of War, who, of course, has the most difficult place to fill, owing to the political complexion which Gen. Boulanger has given it, and owing, also, to the small number of prominent generals who are competent to make a respectable appearance in the Chambers. There are but few French soldiers who have had any oratorical or political training or gift, and those who have any such gift, like Gen. Boulanger, are apt to have too much of it for the good of the country. But the greatest difficulty the new Cabinet has to encounter lies in the fact that the Goblet Ministry was overthrown with the help of the extreme Conservatives of the Right, and the new one will have to count on this help to a greater or less extent, in order to stay in. M. Rouvier is to represent retrenchment and peace and a general cutting down of State aid. In the present condition of French politics even those Republicans who think these are good things are apt to take a distaste to them when they find the monarchists advocating them. So the ministerial crisis is probably not over.

The chief reason why the French "Opportunists" have opposed the retention of Gen.

Boulanger in the Cabinet, is to be found in the figures of the budget on which the Goblet Ministry went out of office. Ever since 1879, the cost of the enormous public works which the Government is carrying on in various parts of France has been met by borrowing. This it is now proposed to insert in the annual taxes. But the cost of reorganizing the army and navy, and making cross roads, has long been met by borrowing also, and it is proposed to continue the practice. The Minister of Finance, in short, asked for this year, from one source or another, \$650,620,947. Last year the revenue receipts only amounted to \$587,022,153. Supposing the returns to be no better this year, the Minister will have to provide for a deficit of \$63,598,794. Of this he proposed to raise \$27,253,583 by new taxes, and to borrow the rest. The cost of the reorganization of the army and navy and the construction of new cross roads—also a military measure—is estimated at \$36,441,000, every cent of which is to be borrowed. It must be remembered that in this the ordinary expenses of the army and navy are not included. In addition to it, however, the sum to be paid to the railroad companies, as a guarantee of interest, will also have to be borrowed. So that, all told, the sum to be borrowed this year will be in round numbers \$56,041,000, which will bring the floating debt—that is, the loans for short terms—up to \$140,511,792, in round numbers. All this is in addition to the old debt left after the war of 1870, which has virtually not been touched in the way of reduction. The new armament of the troops, new barracks, and new fortifications are this year to cost \$8,000,000, and the improvement of the navy \$5,000,000, in round numbers.

The Opportunists in the Chamber have long been opposed to this steady deepening of the financial gulf, and last year took for their motto, "No new loans and no new taxes." But this simply brought them to loggerheads with the Ministry, and caused the ruin of the budget and the voting of the necessary supplies in monthly twelfths, as a sort of compromise. As long as Boulanger was in the Cabinet and represented the national policy, retrenchment was impossible. No Ministry could keep him going and try to retain its hold on the country through his policy, and at the same time bring the expenses within the limits which, in the opinion of prudent financiers, the situation calls for. His last proposal was to ascertain whether his preparations for war were working well by "mobilizing" a corps d'armée at the cost of nearly \$1,000,000 in cash. "Mobilizing" literally means putting the corps into the field, in full readiness for active service, with its supplies and transportation of every description, with its reserves under arms, and with military seizure of the railroads within the zone of proposed operations, reducing the number of trains available for passenger and other ordinary traffic to two trains a day. This of course involves a disturbance of industry which would cost indirectly many millions more. The Germans have their mobilizing machinery in a state of the utmost readiness, but they got it up without borrowing, and took plenty of time for the task.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, May 25, to THURSDAY, May 31, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE President has appointed E. H. Lacombe, Corporation Counsel of New York, to be the additional United States Judge for the Second New York Judicial Circuit. Other appointments by the President are: Henry F. Downing of New York to be Consul at St. Paul de Loanda, Portugal; and Edward J. Hill of North Carolina to be Consul at Montevideo.

The President has denied the application for pardon of James J. Stanley, who was convicted of fraudulent registration at St. Louis, saying, "I cannot pardon a crime against the election laws except it be in a case presenting unusually strong considerations for clemency. I consider such offences the worst of all crimes, and I know of none the punishment of which is more important to the public."

In the drill of militia companies at Washington on May 26, two Southern companies, the Vicksburg Southrons and the Memphis Zouaves, left the line because a colored company from Virginia was given a place in front of them. At a reception on the evening following, the President shook hands with every member of the colored company. The largest prize awarded—\$5,000—was won by the Lomax Rifles, a company from Alabama.

A reversed civil-rights suit for damages has been begun against the Central Railroad of Georgia. The complainant is a white man, who is aggrieved because he was not allowed to ride in the car specially set aside for negroes. He claimed that his ticket entitled him to ride anywhere on the train, but the conductor ejected him from the special colored people's car.

Mr. Geo. W. Cable has cancelled an engagement to lecture at Raleigh, N. C., as well as at Columbia, S. C., on account of the ill feeling against him.

A feature of the Memorial Day exercises at New Orleans was the delivery of an oration by Mr. Theodore S. Wilkinson, member-elect of Congress, who, though too young at the time to bear arms, was in complete sympathy with the South during the war. All the Confederate veteran organizations were represented by committees bearing floral tributes. At Richmond, Virginia, many graves of the dead of both armies were decorated by the same persons.

Gov. Hill of New York has vetoed the Vender Liquor-Tax Bill, which put a graduated tax on dealers. The specific reasons for his veto are, that "the tax is not uniform throughout the State," and that "the bill provides that the taxes raised shall go into the State Treasury, rather than into the treasury of the localities where the licenses are granted."

A bill has passed both branches of the Michigan Legislature which requires persons intending to marry to secure a license from the County Clerk. A certificate of consent from the parents or guardian must be filed with the Clerk if either of the contracting parties is a minor. The Marriage-License Law in Pennsylvania has been so amended as to confer on the police magistrates the power to hear applications and to forward them to the Clerk of the Court, who grants the license if the proof is found sufficient. It formerly required the applicant to appear in person before the Clerk.

A stringent high-license bill, which has passed the lower branch of the Michigan Legislature, has been reported in the Senate with the addition of the civil damages clause which is a part of the present law.

Edward F. Curtis has been appointed Chief of State Police of Rhode Island, vice Charles R. Brayton resigned. The duty of this officer is to enforce the Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Gov. John W. Davis of Rhode Island was inaugurated May 31. He is the first Democratic Governor that the State has had for thirty-four years. A Democratic Lieutenant-Governor was elected by the Legislature.

A bill to regulate telephone rates was rejected in the Massachusetts House on May 25 by a vote of 57 yeas to 105 nays. On the preceding week the House accepted the bill by a vote of 75 yeas to 71 nays. Another effort to admit veterans to the civil service of Massachusetts, without the examination required by the present law, provoked an adverse report by the legislative committee to which the bill was referred.

The Knights of Labor in Cleveland, O., have decided to organize a separate political party. They are said to be able to control about 5,000 votes in the county. They have resolved to put a full State and county ticket in the field next fall.

Not less than 17,000 men are idle in Chicago on account of the strike and lockout in the building trades, and it is believed that 1,000 mechanics have left the city and found work elsewhere. It is estimated that \$900,000 has been lost in wages by the men out of work. In addition to this there must be counted, as the financial effect of the strike, a very large sum, representing capital withdrawn from building enterprises this season.

There arrived at Philadelphia, May 29, on the *Scandinavia*, from Dublin, 100 pauper emigrants from Ireland—men, women, and children—all from County Mayo, who were detained by the Custom house inspectors, under the Pauper Immigrant Act. Their passage was paid by the English Government, and they received drafts on the American Exchange, New York, for amounts ranging from £1 to £5. Most of them, however, were met a few days later by kinspeople and friends who were able to provide for them, and they were allowed to land.

During the week ended May 28, 1,531 emigrants left Queenstown for America. This is 400 more than during the corresponding week in 1886.

Customs officers at San Francisco on May 28 seized the German bark *Nautilus* from Hamburg, on which \$3,000 worth of Havana cigars and a quantity of French brandy were found. The brandy was found in boxes labelled "salt pork."

The cup at the intercollegiate athletic meeting May 28 was won by Yale. The sport was good and the intercollegiate record was broken in four events. Harmer of Yale ran the mile in 4 min. 36.45 sec.; T. G. Shearman of the same college jumped 21 feet 7½ inches in the running broad jump, and Cox, also of Yale, threw the hammer 98 feet 6 inches, and put the shot 40 feet 9½ inches, both being new records.

The damage done by the forest fires in the Northern Peninsula of Michigan during the past fortnight is reckoned at \$7,000,000, including \$2,500,000 caused by the destruction of the town of Lake Linden. Eight persons are known to have perished, and destitution prevails throughout the burned district.

One of the largest fires that have broken out in this city for several years was the burning, early on the morning of May 27, of the Belt Line Street Railroad stables on Tenth Avenue, between Fifty-third and Fifty-fourth Streets. The loss is not less than \$750,000. Nearly 1,200 horses were burned alive. Several tenement-houses near by were destroyed, and many narrow escapes were made by the occupants. At very nearly the same hour on the same morning the stable of a street railroad company in Cincinnati was burned. It contained more than 300 horses, but none perished.

Near the Horseshoe Bend on the Pennsylvania Railroad on the night of May 28, by a collision of trains eight persons were killed and six injured. On the St. Johnsbury and Lake

Champlain Road, near Hardwick, Vt., on the same day, a landslide caused the wreck of a freight train, and three men were killed.

The third death from yellow fever occurred at Key West May 29. The Board of Health has made application for the use of the hospital building at the United States barracks, situated in the outskirts of the town.

Walt Whitman celebrated his sixty-eighth birthday May 30. He received many letters and telegrams of congratulation.

Among the notable persons who have died during the week are: Josiah Sutherland, for many years presiding Judge of the Court of General Sessions, and for twenty years a judge of the New York courts; John K. Tarbox, Insurance Commissioner of Massachusetts; Thomas R. Trowbridge, one of the best known and most respected business men of New Haven; the Rev. Richard Newton, an Episcopalian clergyman of Philadelphia; Mrs. Eliza Blake, one of the first settlers of Indianapolis, whither she went fifty-six years ago; Ben: Perley Poore, the well-known Washington newspaper correspondent, and writer of reminiscences of public men and events at the capital; and Henry J. Ramsdell, another well-known Washington correspondent.

FOREIGN.

A new French Cabinet has been formed by M. Rouvier. It consists of M. Rouvier, Premier and Minister of Finance and of Posts and Telegraphs; M. Fallières, Minister of the Interior; M. Flourens, Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Spuller, Minister of Public Instruction; M. Mazeau, Minister of Justice; Gen. Ferron, Minister of War; M. Barbey, Minister of Marine; M. Barbe, Minister of Agriculture; M. de Hérédia, Minister of Public Works; and M. Dautresme, Minister of Commerce. M. Rouvier declared, in announcing his policy, that the new budget would be prepared in accord with the recent vote of the Chamber. He would maintain the Goblet Cabinet's military bills, and his foreign policy would be firm and prudent. Preparations for the exhibition in 1889 would be actively forwarded. He announced the determination of the Ministry to resign unless they obtained a majority of the Republican votes in the Chamber; that the Ministry would firmly apply the existing legislation on education; and in regard to economy in the public expenditures they proposed to retrench 60,000,000*f*. Referring to the political color of the Cabinet, the Premier said: "We do not reflect especially the views of anybody." Some one cried: "You are Ferry's double." A resolution was moved of want of confidence in the Government, in the Chamber of Deputies, May 31, and was rejected by a vote of 285 to 139. Deputies of the Right estimate that of the 285 votes received by the Government, 130 were cast by members of the Right. If this be correct, the Government has a purely Republican majority that is very small.

On May 31 a number of youths gathered outside the Chamber of Deputies and cried "Vive Boulanger!" In the evening there was a brilliant assemblage at the military fête at the Opera-house. While the company was assembling, thousands of persons gathered in the vicinity shouting, "Resignation!" "Resignation!" "Long live Boulanger!" "We will have him!" The crowd increased in numbers until it became so turbulent that the Republican Guard, which had been held in readiness, was ordered out to disperse it, and the guard was greeted with hisses. But it was not necessary to make arrests.

The Opéra Comique in Paris was burned on the evening of May 25, when it was filled with an audience. The fire broke out during the first act of the opera "Mignon." One of the wings caught from a gas jet, and the whole stage was immediately enveloped in flames. The fire soon spread to the rest of the house, although the iron curtain was lowered. The audience was panic-stricken, and it is thought that nearly 200 persons perished. On May 28, 75 corpses

had been recovered from the ruins. The library of the theatre was destroyed with all its contents, including many valuable scores, and 6,000 costumes were burned. A pamphlet was vended on the streets, two days after the fire, which set forth that if Ministers of Fine Arts had had as high a sense of public duty as has been shown by Gen. Boulanger, the disaster would not have occurred. The Chamber of Deputies has voted a credit of 200,000 francs for the relief of sufferers, and the municipal authorities have ordered the managers of the Palais Royal, the Renaissance, the Ambigu, and the Variétés Theatres to close until alterations have been made which will afford greater security to the public.

The great strike of miners and other laborers in Belgium is not yet ended. The Socialists have taken advantage of the strikes to make demonstrations at various places. They have held meetings at which violent speeches have been made and the red flag displayed. At Verviers the Anarchists incited the strikers to plunder. A mob attempted to parade the streets, but was dispersed by the police with drawn swords, and the gendarmes with fixed bayonets. A committee of strikers wrote to Premier Beernaert demanding universal suffrage and the abandonment of the Cattle Bill, and hinting that if he failed to reply the strikers would march upon Brussels. At a Progressionist-Liberal conference on May 29, a resolution against universal suffrage was adopted by a vote of 317 to 127; but the conference, by a vote of 379 against 45, pronounced in favor of granting the franchise to citizens able to read and write. The *North German Gazette* (Berlin) says that the Belgian Government has approached Germany on the question of mutual action against Socialistic conspiracies. Since the outbreaks of the strikers the German press has described Belgium as the home and hotbed of Anarchists.

The cotton-spinners at Ashton-under-Lyne, England, have agreed to the proposition made by the spinners in Manchester that the mills should be run on half time for eight weeks in case two-thirds of the trade agree to the plan, on account of the dulness of trade.

Two hundred and twenty miners were entombed in a coal pit at Blantyre, near Glasgow, May 28, by an explosion. The shaft was blocked with debris and many of them perished. Some of the bodies have been taken out, charred and mutilated.

The various British chambers of commerce and similar associations have agreed to issue a protest against the import duties on iron and steel imposed by the Canadian Government.

At Bodyke, Ireland, many tenants have been evicted, and many more have barricaded their homes and organized their friends to assist in resisting the police. A serious conflict is feared. A crowd of 1,500 farm laborers in Wales, May 28, surrounded 200 soldiers and police sent to protect an auctioneer who was selling cattle distrained for tithe, forced them back, caught the auctioneer, turned his coat inside out, led him in procession through the town, and, after roughly handling him, made him sign a promise never to act as auctioneer in that neighborhood again.

Mr. Gladstone wrote May 31 that as the Unionist Liberals have assisted in passing the second reading of the permanent Coercion Bill, the Irish question is virtually settled for the present.

Canon Fleming, one of the Queen's chaplains in ordinary, has been accused by the *Pall Mall Gazette* of plagiarism, in using as his own in a volume of sermons a sermon by the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage of Brooklyn. He has written to the *Gazette* that the use of the sermon was "an act of inadvertence." He apologized to Dr. Talmage for the "mistake," but the *Gazette* declares that no apology can cover his sin.

The race for the (English) Derby Stakes, for three-year olds, was won May 25 by Mr. J. Simons Harrison's bay colt Merry Hampton.

On May 27 the race for the Oaks Stakes, for three year old fillies, was won by the Duke of Beaufort's chestnut filly Rêve d'Or.

In the first race on May 28 by the English yachts from Southend to Harwich, the course of fifty miles was finished first by the *Thistle*. The second boat to cross the line was the *Genesta*, and she was followed by the *Irex*. The forty-five-mile yacht race off Harwich May 30 was won by the *Irex*; and so was the third race on May 31, by a time allowance.

The Anglo-Turkish Convention relative to Egypt provides for the maintenance of all existing firmans and the neutralization of the Suez Canal, and guarantees internationally the inviolability of Egypt. It is stipulated that the British shall withdraw from Egypt in three years unless the country is threatened with danger. England shall thereafter supervise the whole Egyptian Army for two years more, with the right to reoccupy, with or without the aid of Turkish troops, if order is disturbed or an invasion is feared. Russian objection to the convention finds expression in the declaration by the *Novoe Vremya* of St. Petersburg, which says that it places Egypt under the perpetual tutelage of England.

English engineers are fortifying Herat. Walls and trenches are being strengthened and redoubts built to resist artillery. The Afghans are displaying hatred of the English, and the Amir has been obliged to appoint military officials to protect the men employed on the works. The aim of the English authorities is to enable a garrison of 10,000 men at Herat to withstand a siege for ninety days.

The Czar has issued a ukase prohibiting aliens from acquiring real property in Russian Poland, and the heir of a foreigner in order to inherit must become a naturalized Russian. The measure has excited indignation at Berlin and Vienna. In the Polish portion of Hungary 2,000 families are themselves property-holders, or have near relatives who are property-holders in the proclaimed district. In Germany the act is looked upon as another blow at the German subjects in Western Russia. The law, moreover, which prohibits foreign Jews from carrying on business within the Russian Empire, has now been extended to Poland.

Successful experiments in cotton culture have been made in three different districts of the Caucasus. American, Egyptian, and Caucasian plants are found to flourish equally well. A company has been formed to establish the first extensive plantations, which will be in the vicinity of Erivan. The Caucasian Agricultural Society is about to send two experts to America to study the system of cotton culture there.

Later reports of the incendiary fire near St. Petersburg on May 24 are that sixty houses were destroyed. Placards were posted two days before, declaring that the villas would be burned. When the fire was started, a wind carried the flame from one house to another, and it could not be controlled until sixty villas had been burned. The loss amounts to several million rubles.

The Rothschilds' petroleum conduits near Batum, in Russia, have been destroyed with dynamite. The outrage is said to have been caused by trade jealousy.

The Hungarian Diet was closed May 26, and Emperor Francis Joseph, in a speech to the members, said: "While you, equally with us, desire to maintain peace, should this be impossible, you have shown that every son of our beloved Hungary is ready to defend with his blood the possessions and interests of the throne, monarchy, and fatherland."

At a Papal Consistory, May 26, Mgr. Pallotte and Father Bausa were made Cardinals. Ten bishops were preconized in France and one in Mexico. The Pope proclaimed the new Catholic Hierarchy of Australasia, making the Bishops of Adelaide, Brisbane, and Wellington Metropolitans.

The Vatican, replying to a request for an interpretation of the Pope's recent allocution, has sent circulars to the Papal Nuncios abroad stating that although the Pope's declarations are moderate nothing will be changed, and if the Italian Government desires peace, the Pope is disposed to treat on the basis of the restoration of his temporal power.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 170 to 49, on May 30 adopted a naval credit for 85,000,000 lire. The money will be expended on ironclads, torpedoes, and forts, the credit to extend over a period of ten years.

The central crater of Mount Etna was discovered to be in a state of eruption May 31. The flow is increasing in volume, and heavy clouds of smoke and masses of stones and cinders are issuing from the crater.

Herr Krupp has finished a 40-centimètre gun, the biggest ever made at Essen. At a trial of the weapon it shot into pieces armor 97 centimètres thick at a distance of 3,000 feet.

Arrangements have been made for a great celebration of the anniversary of the battles of 1870 around Metz. Veterans will go from all parts of Germany.

The report of the English specialist, Dr. Mackenzie, on the condition of the German Crown Prince—that his disease of the throat is not so serious as to debar hope that the trouble may be removed with proper treatment in the course of time—is less assuring than had been expected, and has cast a gloom over official circles in Berlin. A return of the trouble in a more serious form is feared.

A cyclone in India and the Indian Ocean on May 28 destroyed much property and caused the loss of a number of ships. A Calcutta steamer, with 750 persons aboard, was caught by it and has not since been heard of.

Emin Pasha has reported the discovery of a southern affluent of the Albert Nyanza.

Lord Lansdowne spoke at Ottawa May 26 about the O'Brien "invasion," treating it jocularly. He said: "I understand a further object of the invaders was to overrun the country, and above all things to put to flight a certain high official of the State, of whom, unless I misunderstand what has taken place upon this occasion, the people of Ottawa are not particularly anxious to get rid just at present." Mr. O'Brien made an address at Albany May 26, and on the next night made another speech at Montreal. On the 29th he spoke in Boston, where a reception was given to him on the next evening.

The Legislature of Quebec has passed a bill for the abolition of the tax on commercial travellers.

An effort is being made to float a new Quebec loan of \$3,500,000 in France. It is expected that more favorable terms will be obtained there than in England.

The first train on the Canadian Pacific Railroad reached the Vancouver ocean terminus May 24. Before that day trains stopped at New Westminster. There was a great celebration of the completion of the line.

Earthquake shocks were felt in the City of Mexico and throughout the valley at 2:50 o'clock on the morning of May 29. The shock lasted five seconds. Next there came, after a low roar, a violent oscillation of the earth from east to west, lasting thirty-nine seconds. Houses swayed and persons arising from their beds were thrown to the floor. Bells were rung in the hotels, and doors were forced open. Then came still another oscillation of much violence, proceeding from north to south. On the same day four shocks, one being of great violence, were felt at Ancona, Italy.

It is reported from Cucuta, Santander, Colombia, that inoculation for yellow fever has proved successful. About 10 per cent. of the inoculated patients have been attacked by the disease, but none of them has died.

REFUNDING THE DEBT.

THE *Financial Chronicle* makes the suggestion that the reduction of the principal of the public debt which has gone on continuously for more than twenty years, ought not to stop even for the short space that intervenes before the maturity of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bonds. These bonds, \$250,000,000 in all, become payable in 1891. The *Chronicle* does not offer any plan for continuing the debt-paying process, but thinks that it is not impossible to contrive some refunding plan that would be acceptable to the bondholders, whereby surplus revenues might be continuously applied to the lessening of the debt, although at some less rapid rate than has prevailed heretofore.

We agree with the *Chronicle* that debt-paying ought not to stop even for a short time, and that we ought not to dismantle our tax machinery while so large a claim as \$1,100,000,000 is still outstanding. The public mind will be in a state of uneasiness as soon as the public debt becomes a stationary, immovable mass, calling for a fixed amount of interest yearly. The people are perfectly willing to be taxed for the reduction of the debt. Indeed, it may be said they are not willing not to be taxed for it. They have been impatient of the debt from the beginning, but impatient only to see it honestly paid and discharged. They have taken a just national pride in seeing it melt away. There have been periods of temporary craze, when a minority have demanded the payment of the bonds in greenbacks. Some few have bewailed the resumption of specie payments because the restoration of parity between specie and paper made the paying of bonds in greenbacks no longer advantageous to the one side or disadvantageous to the other. But among the great mass of citizens there never was a time when any questionable mode of payment would have been acceptable. Nor will there be any such time hereafter. The only ground for discontent will arise when the payment of the debt shall be checked by the inability of the Government to get hold of any bonds to pay and cancel. That time will arrive before Congress meets again in regular session, so that the present discussion is by no means premature.

The Secretary of the Treasury can dispose of his surplus for a few months by anticipating the payment of interest on the debt. That is an awkward scheme of finance, but not so awkward as piling up money in the Treasury. A few millions might be accumulated without danger to business interests, but if any disturbance should occur in the money market, from any cause whatever, it would be ascribed to the hoarding of the Government, and the political consequences would be serious. The Administration would be held accountable for the prosperity of the country at all points. Every man whose business did not go to his liking would blame the Government for making money tight. Paying the interest in advance would be open to criticism in ordinary times, but, as an alternative to the hiding of the people's money in a napkin, it would be approved by ninety-nine out of every hundred persons in the community. It is only as a temporary ex-

pedient, and in some sort a necessity, that anybody would recommend it.

What is wanted is a plan for continuing the payment of the principal of the debt without intermission, and without greatly extending the time for the ultimate redemption of the whole. If the whole of it were due now, it would take about ten years to pay it off. Therefore, an extension of some part of it for ten years would be admissible. Any long extension in exchange for a lower rate of interest would not be acceptable. The public mind is fixed rather upon the principal than upon the rate of interest. Refunding cannot be brought before Congress with any hope of success if it contemplates any considerable postponement of the time of final payment.

What, then, can be done? The bondholders cannot be forced to take their money before it is due. A contract has been entered into which must be observed. At the time when it was made it was deemed greatly advantageous to the Government. Bonds bearing a high rate of interest were refunded at a lower rate than had been considered possible in this country. Only ten years have passed, yet so great has been the accumulation of capital in that time that twenty-year loans can be had on Government security at about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. The 4 per cent. bonds, whose negotiation at par was looked at as something wonderful in 1877, bring nearly 30 per cent. premium. The holders do not want to be disturbed. They only ask to be let alone. Large amounts of the public debt are tied up in trusts and cannot be disturbed. But there are other large amounts, whose situation is well known, that the Government may deal with in a manner satisfactory to the holders and to the taxpayers, *i. e.*, the bonds held by the national banks.

The amount and description of bonds held by the banks are subject to frequent change, but we may assume that they will hold as much as \$200,000,000 for all purposes until the maturity of the 4s in 1907. The amount to be paid on these bonds running till 1907 is twenty years' interest, or \$160,000,000, plus the principal, being \$360,000,000 in all. Now, the problem is to pay as much as possible of this aggregate sum before the next batch of bonds, the $4\frac{1}{2}$ s, fall due. If the interest could be reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. instead of 4, the Government could afford to pay the other $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in a lump sum now, seeing that it has no other use for its money; but the banks could afford to take less, since they are in the money-lending business, and could use this premium or advance payment of interest in their loans and discounts at a better rate than $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The 30 per cent. premium on the bonds is realizable now by any holder, whether a bank or a private person. It can be obtained by a mere sale in the open market. Therefore the Government would confer no favor upon any holder by offering him \$30 in cash and a new $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bond for his present holding. The banks, however, could and would take less than the market premium, because their premium is not realizable while their notes are outstanding. They can only get it by retiring from business as banks of issue. Upon condition of a change in

the law which would not lessen the security of the bank circulation at all, they could afford to take in lieu of the \$30 premium a sum which, invested at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., would produce \$30 in twenty years. A bank holding \$100,000 4 per cent. bonds has a marketable article of \$130,000. But this is subject to a shrinkage of \$1,500 per year, the whole premium being extinguished in twenty years. By remaining *in statu quo* the premium is lost. Therefore it can accept less than the premium as a present payment. — If the Government can negotiate for anything less, and can substitute a bond at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. instead of 4, it will make a clear gain besides using its present revenues to pay off a future liability.

To illustrate in another way: A bank or other holder of \$100,000 4 per cents will get by mere inertia \$80,000 interest in twenty years. By accepting a $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. bond he will get \$50,000 interest plus \$30,000 cash (if that should be the agreed premium) plus the use of the \$30,000 for twenty years. Of course the agreed premium would not be \$30,000, but it might be as much as \$20,000. Such a plan would be attractive only to the enterprising class of bondholders, but the banks belong to this class. So also do the savings banks and the life-insurance companies. They know how to make profitable use of the premium if they can once get it. There is another factor in the case of no small importance, *viz.*, the tax on bank circulation. This amounts to 1 per cent. per annum. It is no longer needed by the Government, yet it may properly be used as a make-weight in any plan for refunding the bonds held by the banks.

It has been urged that this plan would have no chance of success in Congress, because it is too complicated to be understood by the people, that an outcry would be raised against the payment of a premium to the bondholders, and that this outcry would be all the louder if the national banks were the ones to reap the premium. The plan has been before Congress for some years without attracting much attention. It was first suggested by Mr. John Jay Knox, then Comptroller of the Currency. It was subsequently introduced in the House by Mr. Hewitt and advocated by him in a speech. It was also, we believe, urged by Senator Jones of Nevada in the Senate. It was not treated seriously in either house, because the subject was not then a pressing one. It has now become pressing and must be treated seriously. We have little doubt that all persons can be made to understand it who can understand any financial question. At all events, a really necessary measure cannot be postponed because a portion of the community are too ignorant or too indolent to comprehend its merits.

DUMB LEGISLATION.

THERE is no phenomenon of our State government, as we see it at Albany, more startling than the increasing tendency to push through pieces of legislation of the most startling character, seriously affecting public and private rights, not only without adequate discussion, but without any discussion what-

ever. That is to say, we see every winter very grave changes made in the law without being any better informed, or in fact nearly so well informed, of the reason of them than if we lived in Russia, and were governed by imperial ukase, instead of living in New York and being governed by acts and resolutions of a deliberative body controlled by a Constitution. For instance, the Field Code, making marked modifications in the law under which the people of this State have lived for two centuries, was passed in the Assembly, without debate, by the aid of half a dozen loafing members called in hastily from the lobby. We know what the author of the Code and a number of other well or ill-informed persons have to say for it; but we do not know what reasons influenced the Assembly in passing it. There was no more debate about it, no member thought it any more worth his while to give the people of the State an account of his reasons for making these great changes in their laws, than if he belonged to the Imperial Chancellery at St. Petersburg.

The same thing may be said of the bill providing for the Constitutional Convention. It was, everything considered, a very peculiar bill in various ways, as any one may see by reading Gov. Hill's veto of it. It made various startling departures from what any plain man would consider the natural and proper course in calling such a convention. These departures may have been justifiable. But whether they were justifiable or not, why the bill was first drawn one way and then drawn another way, none of the majority thought it worth his while to tell the public. They simply passed it, just as the Czar issues a decree, as their will and pleasure.

About the High-License Bill, owing to the great public interest in it, there was some discussion, but about the Vedder bill there was very little by legislators. Nobody knows why any legislator voted for it, unless it be Mr. Ernest Crosby, who will never tell. Nor does anybody know why the Insurance-Tax Bill was passed, or what was the influence which operated in the last hours of the session to cause the hurried passage of the shameless bills virtually taking the control of the Central Park out of the hands of the Commissioners in this city, by handing it over to the National Guard as a parade ground, and fixing the portions of it which may be used by bicycles.

We might greatly multiply these illustrations, but the above will serve our purpose. They show that enormous powers over the fortune, comfort, and safety of the people of the State are exercised freely by one of the most dangerous bodies known to civilized men—that is, an assembly which gives no reasons for its decisions. We do not allow judges trained in the law, and selected with care for their probity and capacity, to behave in this way. In every civilized State they are compelled, either by law or usage, when they decide an important controversy, to give in detail the arguments by which they reached their conclusions, not only in order to show whether the conclusions are sound, but also as a check on caprice, or corruption, or favoritism. We know that even bad men shrink from act-

ing wrongly if they are bound to put on record the reasons for acting. And yet we in this State allow a body of obscure men to get together in Albany every winter, and for four or five months to play ducks and drakes with the gravest interests of a great community, without giving anybody the slightest explanation of their conduct, and then sneak back to their villages and farms, with their tongues in their cheeks, to live on their booty, laugh at the indignation of their victims, and be forgotten.

Of course we do not expect every man in the Legislature to get up and give the reasons for his vote. Heaven forbid. But we do expect every political party which shapes or controls legislation in a deliberative body to put forward men capable of speaking for it, of expounding its motives and justifying its policy. Had the Republican party at Albany any such man this winter? Not one. Or last winter? Not one. Has there been the slightest sign of shame over this dumb contempt for the public? Not the slightest.

It will probably be said or thought by some that this silence of the party in the Legislature is at least made up for by the outspokenness of the party organs in the press. Those who think so are egregiously mistaken. The solemn truth is—and we commend it to the serious attention of all good men and women in this State—that the more outrageous or inexplicable the conduct of the majority in the Legislature is, the deeper the silence which the party newspapers maintain about it. Take as an illustration that extraordinary, and, indeed, we might say unprecedented incident, the refusal of the Republican majority in the Senate, for several years running, either to confirm or reject the nominations of Democratic Governors for the Quarantine Commission, so that Republican partisans should be enabled to hold for four and five years offices of which the terms were two and three years. If ever there was conduct by public men which needed explanation, it was this. The need of explanation became absolutely crying when Gov. Hill made three first-class nominations this spring, two of them Republicans, to fill the vacancies, and the Senate again "hung them up." Not one syllable of excuse or elucidation touching this extraordinary performance has come from any Republican in or out of the Senate, and be it well remembered that the Republican party press has been as mute as the politicians. The Organ in this city, which is believed to have more influence with these little gangs of conspirators at Albany than anybody else, and ought to have it by right, has been silent as the grave about the whole matter. The remedy is plain enough. There is only one, and it is easy of application. We must have a revision of the Constitution which will curtail the powers of mischief of these dumb but predatory animals.

FAILURE TO COMPROMISE IN VIRGINIA.

ALL negotiations between Virginia and her English creditors are at an end. As it is now clear that the sole endeavor of the State was to effect by persuasion what it had failed to effect by laws, threats, and years of liti-

gation—that is, a substantial acquiescence with the "Riddleberger" settlement—the negotiations were of course foredoomed to failure. The creditors are no doubt disappointed, but a review of their position should make them take heart again. The niggardly policy of the State has at least prevented them from being tempted to abandon all their real security by the offer of a large sum, and they will be spared the future bitterness of finding their claims denied to them, principal and interest, and themselves treated to insult and warmed-over excuses, after the manner with which Tennessee treated her creditors. As they now stand, they can fight on, sure that their coupons will have some value not dependent on the pleasure of a repudiating party or State, and it is highly probable that this value will slowly rise after the immediate present.

If, after thus reviewing their position, any of the creditors still fail to feel the advantage of having a legal right in place of Virginia's bare word for a round sum, let him send for a file of Virginia papers and read them. He will find that the refusal to accept the munificent compromise is considered by the repudiators "as a declaration of war." Now who would care to trust to people who can so twist facts that, after harrying their creditors for five years in order to drive them from a legal stronghold, and failing in that, they call the mere refusal to vacate at request an act of aggression too great to be borne?

The newspapers, of course, are full of the severe measures the State will take. They threaten to pass a constitutional amendment repudiating the whole debt, to levy monthly taxes, and darkly hint at other "honorable" measures for destroying the tax-receivable quality of the coupons. But, as the *Baltimore Sun* dryly remarks, the remedies are not of obvious efficacy. The editors also trust to the chapter of accidents. Stress is laid upon the fact that the death of Mr. Justice Woods will give the President a chance to appoint a successor who will join with a minority in the present court to reverse the decision making coupons tender for taxes. This is puerile. The President may be trusted to fill this important position with an honorable man, learned in the law. The bondholders need ask for nothing more. Such a man will follow what has, with very few exceptions, been the custom of the Supreme Court, and abide by its past decisions. So strong is this rule of abiding by decided cases that there is no fear that the judges who dissented from the opinion in the 114th United States Reports would reverse the decision now. They abode by the majority opinion in the 116th United States, and the necessary grounds of the decision are too narrow to be changed by anything short of reversal. The Virginians should recognize once for all that nothing short of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States can change the tax-receivable quality of the coupons.

As to the chapter of accidents outside of the courts, the bondholders have much more to hope. Virginia is now probably at its lowest moral and intellectual ebb. Though the State as a whole is richer than before the war, its best people, by a transfer of wealth, are poorer. In consequence its energetic blood has emigrated, its citizens have

taken high places, especially in Maryland, New York, and the Pacific States, and are indeed scattered all over the West and North. The gap left has not yet been filled. On the contrary, Mahone, Riddleberger, and Massey have been the dominating influences over both political parties, to which men of placid temperament and not particularly strong character, like Fitz-Hugh Lee, have been obliged to succumb. Emigration has not set in sufficiently to make its influence felt. But in the future, when the West becomes practically filled up, it is not unlikely that the population of Virginia will change. Western and Northern capital and energy will develop it, and bring in business principles to replace the present mawkish sentimentality and public dishonesty. Then Virginians will see that it will actually pay to have good credit, and will settle their debt. So far the whites only have been spoken of. With the colored people there is still more hope of advance. The schools are educating them rapidly, and with education they will be far more subject to the appeals of reason and honesty than at present. A Riddleberger and a Mahone will find them less supple tools for their demagogic purposes.

At the same time, unless the creditors could continue to worry the State, their position would be a precarious one. If the State could prevent the coupons from entering its treasury, its legislators would feel so rich that the same faults of intellect and character which prevent them from paying their debts, would cause them to run into all sorts of extravagant expenditures. Even now State pensions begin to agitate the politicians' brains, and next we should hear of internal improvements, schemes for making Norfolk rival New York, subsidies to railways, monuments to public characters, and the other hundred schemes for frittering away the public money. But upon this the coupons will be a constant check. The higher the taxes the more temptation for paying them with coupons, and their menace will spoil the State's credit. Thus it will be impossible to forget their debts, and the two greatest dangers in a matter of this sort, stolid forgetfulness and actual inability to pay, will be prevented. In 1795 Georgia made her famous Yazoo land sales. In 1796 she repudiated the sales and publicly burnt the Act of '95 before the State-house, using a sun-glass that fire from heaven might be called down upon the act. In 1798, to emphasize further her repudiation, a new Constitution was formed to embody it, and that same year, at her instigation, the eleventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which gives States immunity from suit, was passed. Yet, with all these barriers against the claims, they continued to be agitated, and in the end the State was glad to cede the lands, subject to the claims, to the United States. The matter thus became transferred to the national Government, and, through the virulence of John Randolph, long remained unsettled, but finally, in 1814, a compromise was made by which the creditors received \$8,000,000.

No better instance could be given of the difficulty of shaking off a just claim. The Yazoo land sales were undoubtedly carried through the State Legislature by bribery, and the equity of the claimants depended solely upon the fact

that they were innocent purchasers for value. In Virginia's case there is no question of bribery; or doubt that she has received full value; and her creditors, instead of having nothing except pluck and a strong sense of right to depend upon, have in the coupon an automatic torment for the State Treasury.

DIRT ROADS.

ABOUT this time of the year Americans begin to give an amount of attention to roads and road-making which is sadly wanting during the rest of it. There is probably no people in the world which has made such progress in the arts of civilized life generally that seems to care so little for what a good many social philosophers put among the very foremost of them, the art of road-making. In fact, some philosophers have pronounced the history of roads the history of civilization. Nothing distinguishes a civilized country from a barbarous one so markedly as the difference in the means of communication between one locality and another. As a general rule, one knows that a people is rising in the social scale by seeing its roads improve; one knows that it is declining by seeing its roads go out of repair. Nothing marked so vividly the great plunge into barbarism which Europe took after the fall of the Roman Empire as the disappearance of the superb lines of communication which led from the Forum straight as an arrow to every corner of the Roman world. Nothing, too, tells the tale of Chinese decadence so distinctly as the ruin which has overtaken the great roads and canals which at an earlier period connected the capital with the provinces. When an American goes to Europe for the first time, nothing seems odder than the superiority of the European roads in countries which can make no pretence of equalling the United States in other marks of material progress. We are not a declining people; on the contrary, we are the most growing people in the world. We are not among the poor nations of the globe; on the contrary, we are probably the very richest. We are not indifferent to material improvement; on the contrary, the most frequent charge made against us is that we give too much attention to it; and yet we are worse off by far, in the matter of roads, than any other highly civilized community.

The original reason of the American indifference about roads was probably the rapidity with which the early settlers scattered themselves in small communities over wide areas. The fewer people there are to the square mile of inhabited territory, of course the costlier roads become; and when population is very much dispersed, as in frontier settlements, people cease to think of good roads as a luxury within their reach, and devote themselves simply to the task of keeping them passable. This tendency to neglect the art of road-making would probably have disappeared early in this century if the railroads had not come in as the great lines of communication, thrown the post roads and military roads out of use, and relegated all roads but railroads to the condition of cross-roads or byways. The railroads not only did this, but they dispersed the settlers over still wider areas than ever, and

thus made the prospect of running a good highway past every man's door seem hopeless. The consequence has been that the early colonial or frontier state of mind—in which a road was considered good enough if it was simply practicable to wheeled vehicles (that is, if there were no holes or rocks in it sufficiently formidable to upset a carriage), and anything better than this an unattainable luxury—has almost settled into a national tradition.

One has only to go a few miles out of any of our large cities to find the roads in every direction being repaired in the exact manner in which they were repaired by the struggling colonists between 1630 and 1700—that is, nothing is attempted beyond filling up the holes with any material that is at hand, and affording facilities for the water to run off. The material that is at hand is, of course, the mud or compost out of the adjacent ditch. This is shovelled up with the utmost gravity and deposited all along the centre, filling up the cavities and hiding from view the projecting rocks. In districts in which gravel or strong clay is obtained in this way, the result is often satisfactory enough. But as a general rule the contents of the ditch are simply mud or decayed vegetable matter, fit only for manure. Spread over the road as a plaster, it rapidly becomes dust and is swept away by the wind, or else becomes mud and is washed back again into the ditch, or down into the hollows, in which in wet weather it forms a kind of quagmire, through which horses toil wearily. The one advance we have made in this curious process over the early colonists is the invention of the large iron scoop or shovel, worked by oxen or horses, as a substitute for the manual labor of the olden days. A foreigner, seeing it at work for the first time, is always disposed to believe that the road is being prepared for a crop of some kind, and as a matter of fact we have ourselves seen many a mile of country road in which, after the spring repairs, potatoes or corn would have grown very luxuriantly.

Of course there are signs of progress out of this primitive condition in the more densely settled districts on the eastern coast and in the neighborhood of the large cities. The Park roads, with which people have been made familiar during the past thirty years, have shown those who have never been abroad what a good road is, and have thus raised the standard of road-making, as the Vienna bakery raised the standard of bread-making all over the country after the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876. But most rural districts suffer greatly from not having a standard at all. Some of those who tax themselves most freely suffer most, because the plentiful supply of money not only does not improve the roads, but breeds a political ring, who treat it as "boodle." The reason they suffer is that, as they have no standard of goodness in roads, and do not make specific requirements as to what shall be done to keep the roads in order, it is never possible to bring trustees, or selectmen, or roadmasters to a proper account. They always escape if they can show they have put on the annual spring plaster; and when it is washed away, as it is sure to be a little later, they throw the

blame on the freshets; and the simple citizen, not knowing what to say in answer to them, says nothing. We have seen the plaster applied to projecting rocks in a steep declivity in the middle of a great highway within twenty miles of New York, year after year, without a word of remonstrance from anybody, and without any demand for the use of the sledge-hammer for the safety of horses and carriages. The waste of all this, through the wear and tear of animals, vehicles, and harness, is of course immense. As it is not easy to calculate it, it makes but little impression on the popular mind, but it probably far surpasses the cost of thorough repair or macadamization. Until a standard has been set up, increased votes of money for road-making will in populous districts simply result in the multiplication of the people who live by "politics."

There is little doubt, too, that not only was the light wagon, for which America is now famous, produced by the badness of our roads, but it now helps to keep the roads bad by diminishing in the public eye the inconvenience of them. The wagon in which Americans delight, and which no other nation has yet been able to imitate, really gets over bad roads almost as easily as a saddle or pack-horse: we have seen it jump a fence behind a runaway with a certain grace and dexterity. But bad roads tell on it rapidly also, though not perhaps as rapidly as on heavier vehicles. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that a light wagon would last one-third longer on an English or Swiss road than on ours, and would be a far greater luxury. Nobody shows more appreciation of the smooth, hard park roads than the trotting men, although they prefer the dirt road to "speed" on; and they may be said to be the only class of the community to whose needs or wishes attention in the matter of road-making has been paid. The owners of heavy vehicles have been left to get along as best they can, although they use roads for business and not for pleasure. In no department of our material progress, in fact, is there so much need of reform as in our road-making, and above all in our road-repairing, whether we look at the matter from the health or the pleasure point of view.

THE NEW LIGHT ON THE KENTUCKY RESOLUTIONS.

GRASMERE, NEAR LEXINGTON, Ky.,
May 24, 1887.

I HAVE read with great interest Miss Randolph's recent communication in the *Nation* upon the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798, and place a very high value upon its important contribution to the history of the much-vexed question of their authorship. At the same time I cannot entirely concur in the conclusion expressed in the last paragraph of her letter, nor, indeed, in all of the subordinate conclusions of her skilfully constructed argument.

In the first place, while Mr. Jefferson gives in his letter of December 11, 1821, very glaring examples of the lapses of his memory as to details—lapses such as show a failure of memory as to the minor circumstances connected with events themselves clearly remembered—yet it is a matter of history that Mr. Jefferson's memory was to the very last singularly well preserved as to the events in which he had been an actor. It is a

universal experience, moreover, that the memory retains events with far greater distinctness than the circumstances attending them, the persons participating in them, or the words spoken at the time of their occurrence. It would seem, then, that a very substantial chain of circumstantial evidence would be required successfully to combat the direct testimony of Mr. Jefferson as to the conference of 1798, especially as that conference, if it ever took place, was the birth-moment of a plan which led to momentous results.

It being now settled that "your father," in the letter of December 11, 1821, was John Breckinridge, the evidence of the letter from Jefferson to W. C. Nicholas fully corroborates the testimony of Mr. Jefferson that John Breckinridge and W. C. Nicholas were his principal coadjutors, and that Mr. Madison was at least "consulted." And to my mind the letters of October 5, 1798, and October 10, 1798, both indicate very plainly considerable antecedent discussion. On October 10 Mr. Breckinridge was on the eve of his return to Kentucky. Mr. Jefferson had abandoned the idea of the Resolutions being first offered in North Carolina; Mr. Breckinridge had somehow gained his entire confidence; he had conveyed to Col. Nicholas the opinion that "everything is said that can be said in the paper" then in Mr. Breckinridge's possession. Not only so, but there is a suggestion in the letter of October 10 that the visit intended to be paid by Mr. Breckinridge to Mr. Jefferson, the "delicacy and motives" for his omission of which Mr. Jefferson so highly appreciated, was not the first or only visit of this trip, but the farewell visit, and that the "delicacy and motives" of its omission were nothing less than the desire to avoid attracting attention by too frequent calls at Monticello after the "consultation" had taken place, in order that no one should suspect that Jefferson had helped concoct the Kentucky Resolutions.

Let me here introduce a letter which throws a strong side-light on the way the actors in this little drama were moving. This letter is from Caleb Wallace, a man, at the time of its date, of prominence in Kentucky politics, a member of the Legislature from Woodford County, and an intimate friend of John Breckinridge and George Nicholas. It was written to Mr. Breckinridge at Frankfort, whither he had already gone to attend the Legislature:

"LEXINGTON, November 5, 1798.

"DEAR SIR: I congratulate you on your return to your family and county, and am happy to hear that you are in good health. I long to see you, but do not expect to have that pleasure till about the middle of the month, about which time I must go to Frankfort. The letter which you sent from Botetourt lay in one of my neighbors' houses two or three weeks, so that I did not receive it until a few days ago, so that I have not had time to pay attention to the request made in your letter; indeed, I do not think myself capable of draughting anything of so great importance. I think that the main points to which the Legislature ought to attend are the Alien and the Sedition Laws and the laws respecting raising regulars and volunteers, all of which are certainly unconstitutional in the most dangerous instances; the first affecting the trial by jury, the second the freedom of the press, the two great palladiums of liberty. But I think the last is the most highly dangerous, because, if in the present instances the Executive does not abuse the powers with which Congress has invested him, it will become a popular precedent for giving the same powers on some future occasion. I feel great anxiety that the conduct of our Legislature should be firm, spirited, and constitutional, and, therefore, would go to Frankfort in a few days, but I have been lately much harassed by some of my old bodily infirmities, and I have now been here two or three days, by which I find myself injured.—I am, dear sir, your friend and servant, CALEB WALLACE.

"N. B. Our friend Nicholas is now publishing a letter on the points I have mentioned, which I think more masterly than any other that has ap-

peared on them. If you doubt the temper of the Legislature, would it not be best to keep the business in agitation until the members have an opportunity to read the letter?"

Mr. Breckinridge's letter from Botetourt, which had made the journey to Kentucky, lain for two or three weeks at a neighbor's, and been left unanswered several days on November 5, must have been written early in October. If that letter ever is resurrected, it will probably have a tale to tell; but in its absence we may at least see plainly that Mr. Breckinridge was not only consulting with the Vice-President and Col. Nicholas in Virginia, but also writing to urge a Kentucky legislator "to draw something" setting out his views of the protest proper to be made.

And, after all, what is the kernel of the matter? There are two sets of resolutions extant—one set found among Mr. Jefferson's papers, and another passed by the Kentucky Legislature. The two problems, then, are: Who drew the Jefferson set? was it the original draft? Who altered it into the Kentucky form? If the "Jefferson draft," so called, was the first draft, then its penman substantially drew the Kentucky Resolutions. But, *me judice*, the alterations in the form actually adopted were of such a bold and radical nature as to make their author the responsible author, and to show that he so regarded himself.

John Breckinridge exerted himself in July and August, 1798, to have the citizens of Fayette and the adjoining counties pronounce in mass meeting against the Alien and Sedition and Army Bills, both before and after they became laws. In the *Kentucky Gazette* of Lexington, an anonymous writer, signing himself Philo-Agis, urged that the Legislature be "immediately convened by the Governor," and that it should "pass resolutions praying for a repeal of every obnoxious and unconstitutional act of Congress." This letter, published on August 22, is, I believe, the first suggestion that the Legislature should take up the matter which was being pressed by mass meetings and petitions to Congress. It was about the time of this publication that Mr. Breckinridge set out for Virginia. So far from the visit of Mr. Breckinridge to Monticello, mentioned in Mr. Jefferson's letter to Cabell Breckinridge in 1815, being, as Miss Randolph assumes, his only visit, it was only the first of a long series. During Mr. Jefferson's absence at the Court of St. Denis, Mr. Breckinridge had moved to Charlottesville and begun the practice of the law there. He had already, upon Mr. Jefferson's return, become intimate with Monroe and the Nicholases—an intimacy which Mr. Jefferson, when he had, as he himself says, in their first interview, "opportunity sufficient to discern the large scope of his mind; the stores of information laid up in it, and the moral direction given to both," with his usual graciousness, made haste to share. It seems almost impossible to credit that, Mr. Jefferson being at home, Mr. Breckinridge could have failed to see him during his visit to his old home at Charlottesville, in the weeks just before the Jefferson-Nicholas letter of October 5.

And if a determination to have the autumn campaign begin in North Carolina had been abandoned, where shall we look for a more natural cause of this change than the influence of Mr. Breckinridge, fresh from Kentucky, not only ripe for action, but ripe for action through the Legislature? Whether Nicholas first suggested the action that was finally decided on to Jefferson, or whether Breckinridge brought the idea from Kentucky, Breckinridge had a paper prior to the receipt of the letter of October 5 containing all that the other two thought could be said. Who drew this paper? This, no doubt, is the something that Jefferson was asked to draft and drew, according to the letter of December 11,

1821. If it was the same as that found in his papers, who altered it? It would seem, from the attitude of the letter from Caleb Wallace and Mr. Breckinridge's future conduct, that it was he; that he took what liberty with it he pleased, and always felt that he was entirely responsible for the final form of his resolutions. The Kentucky Legislature pointed to his "resolves" as a chief reason for making him Senator; Mr. Jefferson made them the basis of his after-promotion; Matthew Lyon, the arch-sufferer under the Sedition Law, claims greatness for him as the *writer* of the Resolutions; John Nicholas, the eloquent assailer of the odious laws, says to him in a letter in the following year, when speaking of the Resolutions of '99, they "are, I suspect, as well as the first handsome production on the same occasion, without intending to flatter, the effort of one who never failed to have a considerable influence over me."

The preponderance of the proof seems strongly in favor of a conference—of a conference, too, from which some kind of a paper came forth, drawn, Mr. Jefferson says, by himself; drawn, the Breckinridge family claim, by John Breckinridge; drawn, as Miss Randolph would seem to infer, by W. C. Nicholas without any conference at all, but so drawn as to meet the general approval of Jefferson, Madison, Nicholas, and Breckinridge.

The following letter, taken from an unsigned copy in Mr. Breckinridge's handwriting and found in his papers, has two interesting points in it which may justify its reproduction. It shows how the suggestions of the letter of September 5, '99, to W. C. Nicholas were acted on, and with how great independence they were treated by Mr. Breckinridge; and, also, how early the people even in Kentucky awoke to the dangerous sound of that fearful word "nullification":

"FRANKFORT, Ky., December 9, 1799.

"DEAR SIR: I took the liberty by the last post of enclosing to you the proceedings of our Legislature (now in session) in support of their Resolutions of the last session, respecting the Alien and Sedition Laws. It was at the opening of the session concluded to make no reply, but lest an improper construction should be put on our silence, we drew up the paper which I enclosed you. In the lower house (of which I am a member) there was not a dissenting voice. In the Senate there was considerable division, particularly on that sentence which declares 'a nullification of those acts by the States to be the rightful remedy.' It so happens that what little Federal influence exists among us is at present concentrated in the Senate. The elections of Senators in every district, under our new Constitution, which must be made *viva voce* by the people, instead of by electors, will extinguish even this little influence. The great mass of the people are uncontaminated and firm, and as all appointments now flow from the people, those who hold sentiments contrary to theirs will be discarded."

Systematic search, such as Miss Randolph, Col. Durrett, and others have recently made in this matter, is far more satisfactory in its results than speculation; and I hope that while I institute a careful inquiry after the letter of John Breckinridge to Caleb Wallace, Miss Randolph or some one else will try to trace out W. C. Nicholas's letter to Jefferson of October 4, as well as Col. Nicholas's letter; if any was ever written, taking Mr. Madison into his confidence.

ETHELBERT D. WARFIELD.

THE WARWICKSHIRE LABORER.

WARWICKSHIRE, May 16, 1887.

It is difficult to say whether the agricultural depression of the last ten years has pressed most heavily on landowner, farmer, or agricultural laborer in Warwickshire. And in speaking of the condition of the laborer, the condition of his employers must naturally be considered.

In our parish, some of the farms are pretty

stiff clay; others are rich loam on gravel. The grass lands are well adapted to dairying, to sheep, and to the raising of young stock. But big "beasts" will not fatten upon them without cake, as they do on the heavy, rank grass of the deep clay lands in the plain of Warwickshire—the "Folden," as George Eliot calls it. Such land as ours requires thoroughly good farming, plenty of labor, and a generous expenditure of capital in stock and manures to make it pay.

Among the farmers in our village, renting farms of two hundred to three hundred acres from Lord —, who owns the parish, some few are living on the same farms their fathers had before them. One or two own freehold property in other parishes. Three are tradesmen in the neighboring town. The rest are new-comers; for, during the disastrous decade through which we have just passed, many of the farms have changed hands more than once. When young beasts that sold seven years ago for £17 now fetch £10; when, owing to the wet, wheat crops fail both in quantity and quality to such an extent that they do not cover the expense of planting; when whole flocks of sheep are swept off by that horrible disease, "the fluke," which in this parish attacked even calves and foals, while in Northamptonshire the hares lay dead from it by the hundred—farmers, unless they have capital to fall back upon, cannot make a living.

The landlords, rather than have the land thrown on their hands, are willing to let the farms at greatly reduced rents to men with small capital. These new-comers can employ but little labor. A father and his two sons, with a boy, will attempt to work a clay farm, mostly arable, which in old days, when farming paid well, employed six men and three boys. The land, in consequence, is not properly farmed. The limited amount of stock is not sufficient to provide dressing for the ground. There is little ready money to buy manure from the town; none to expend on costly artificial manures. Short crops and dirty land are the results; and when the farmer has squeezed all he can out of the soil, he too often gives his year's notice, and is off to seek fresh fields and pastures new, when the same process is repeated.

Landlords are severely blamed for letting their farms to such tenants. It is undoubtedly most unfortunate for all concerned. But, in the present state of things, one does not wonder that any alternative seems preferable to farming the land themselves. Unless they possess very large private fortunes, the landlords, with no rents coming in, have not capital to meet the enormous outlay entailed by farming two or three thousand acres of midland clay lands, and they think themselves fortunate if they can get tenants at all, at however low a rent. Those who are free to sell their estates find great difficulty in getting purchasers, as few people wish to invest in so useless and expensive a commodity.

On all sides we see fine old houses shut up or let to rich manufacturers, who do not understand the laborers, and are looked upon by them as interlopers. "He ain't no gentleman," is the remark we hear, in spite of gifts of blankets and soup, and big subscriptions to the village charities. The home-parks of great estates are let for grazing to the butchers of the towns, who are about the only prosperous members of the community, for the retail price of meat has not fallen at all in proportion to the fall of price in stock. Every day timber wagons pass, carrying the grand elms of our county—"the Warwickshire weed"—cut down by the half-ruined landowners, who are selling their horses, giving up their carriages, reducing their establishments, and are waited on by neat parlor maids, instead of the butlers and footmen of a few years ago. To their honor be it said that their local charities have

not been reduced in any one case that has come under our notice; but, of course, less labor is employed on the estates when there is no money to pay for improvements.

This state of things with landlords and tenant farmers presses heavily on the laborer. Instead, however, of generalizing, it may be worth while to examine the condition of the day laborers in our village at this moment, and see how they are housed, how they are clothed and fed, and on what they live.

Many of the cottages are 250 years old. These are the half-timbered red-brick or white-plastered houses which give such a picturesque look to the place. They are fairly comfortable dwellings, two-storied, with little diamond-paned windows which open, but do not let in much light. In some of them we find good old black-oak furniture; and with flowering plants on the ledge of the long, low window, a red-brick floor, with a bit of carpet, perhaps, by the table, and a blazing coal fire in the good close range which has been fitted into the vast ancient fireplace, with its cosey chimney corner, some of our cottage kitchens make a pretty and cheerful picture. The rest of the houses in the village are of the pattern which ought to be suppressed by public opinion if not by law—three and four-roomed cottages on the ground with no upper floor. These were built by squatters who, some sixty to a hundred years ago, were allowed by the negligence of an agent of the then Lord —, to run up these human pigsties on any outlying bit of ground. They have all been bought up at great expense by Lord — and made as habitable as their plan permits, with good windows and doors and the excellent close ranges which are now almost universal in the cottages; and as he can afford it, he pulls them down and builds decent dwellings in their place. For these cottages, with an excellent garden, as we have said elsewhere, the rent is from £2 to £4 a year.

A stranger coming into the village on Sunday is struck with the well-to-do look of the people. The men are all well dressed. In summer nearly every one of the younger men has his cutaway black coat for church, and in winter a thick warm greatcoat, while the dandies of the village go in for ulsters. The working-day clothes are a short white "slop" over a tweed or corduroy jacket, with corduroy or tweed trousers, and leather gaiters. Among the elder men the serviceable cord knee-breeches and gaiters, the double-breasted waistcoat with long sleeves, and the short embroidered white smock are still worn—the last remnant of costume in Warwickshire. The elder women still favor the short bedgown—a loose jacket over which the plain full-plaited skirt of linsey or cotton is fastened—a cotton sun-bonnet, and a small three-cornered shawl. But the younger ones have adopted the latest fashions—ulsters, tight jackets, hats, feathers, flowers, flounces, frills, and "dress improvers" to any extent. Some of our girls are charmingly turned out. But one sees that every penny of wages that our maidens earn at service must go on to their backs instead of into their pockets.

As to food, a branch of a large coöperative store at Emscote is established in the village, managed by one of the villagers. Here, for ready money, all the necessities of life except meat can be had. Tea, bread, butter, treacle, or jam, with a bit of bacon sometimes, is the laborer's breakfast. No house goes without its good bit of fresh meat on Saturday for the Sunday dinner. This will be made to last for three or four days; and if no more can be afforded, the dinners for the rest of the week are eked out with bacon, for every one keeps a pig. The other meals—tea or supper—are made up of bacon, cheese, bread, and dripping. "John and the children is that set on drippin'," a wife will say to

one; and the taste for this (to us) peculiarly repulsive form of food extends among servants and farmers. "Kettle-broth" is also a favorite Warwickshire dish. This is simply bread seasoned with salt and pepper, over which boiling water, sometimes thickened with a little flour, is poured. The children devour it for their suppers with the greatest relish. Most of the men drink beer with their dinners, but there is no drunkenness in the parish.

The wages of an able-bodied farm laborer are here about twelve shillings a week in winter and fourteen in summer. In some of the more remote parts of Warwickshire they are at this moment only eleven shillings. Women can earn from one shilling to one-and-sixpence a day at field work, *i. e.*, turnip and swede-cutting, stone-picking, weeding, and hay-making. Carters and cowmen get thirteen to fourteen shillings a week, with a house, or fifteen shillings without one. Boys get four to five shillings a week going with the teams, etc. During the harvest month the men get £6 for the four weeks and "find themselves," or £5 to £5 10s. when the farmer gives them beer. The former plan is now largely adopted.

The trouble in the last few years has been that, as we have said, the farmers, owing to the bad times, have reduced the number of their laborers, so that now there are more men in the parish than there is work for. Men get a few days' job here and there. They were nearly all at work last harvest, but even in harvest several were unable to get work, while on one farm eleven Irish laborers were employed. The reasons given by the men for this apparent injustice were, first, that the Irishman will always undersell the Englishman; and this is true enough. If one of our men offered to work at 3s. a day, the Irishman would promptly come down to 2s. 6d., and so on. Secondly, they put it on "the spite of the farmers to the laborers." That there is but little love lost between some of the farmers and a good many of the laborers is undeniable. The old relations of mutual esteem and help were well-nigh destroyed during the troubles of the "Laborers' Union" twelve to fifteen years ago, and it is only in a few cases that the former kindly feeling still exists. Some of the farmers look on the men as idle, lazy, insolent fellows, who are only too glad to stop work at a critical moment in hopes of a rise of wages. The men, on the other hand, say the farmers are capricious, hard, grinding them down to the lowest possible price. As usual, there is some truth and a good deal of exaggeration on both sides.

With regard to the employment of Irish labor, the farmers undoubtedly prefer men who, though they are inferior workmen, can be driven here and there as no Warwickshire laborer could be, and can be turned off at a moment's notice. They have but little sense of duty to their neighbors, and cannot see why they should employ a man who is living in actual want at their gate when they can get the work done more cheaply by a travelling Irishman, who, as they say, "doesn't dare sauce them." The laborer, on the other hand, is not what he was, and we found upon careful inquiry that the men who were out of work last summer were usually—but not in all cases—bad workmen, or sickly, sulky, quarrelsome fellows. It is a lamentable but certain fact that the present generation are less good workers than their fathers, and distinctly worse than their grandfathers. They take less pains about their work. They will come to work one day and absent themselves without reason or warning the next. In this parish there are but two middle-aged men who can thatch. None of the younger ones know how to do it, and as ricks and cottages must still be thatched, one wonders what will happen when these two useful and much-sought-

after persons are laid among their fathers in the green churchyard on the hill. In the same way there are but two or three men who can "splash and lay" a quickset hedge, and they are not the artists in "hedging and ditching" their fathers were. The railroads, domestic service, and the colonies drain off the greater number of our most intelligent and energetic young men, and among those who remain we begin to see a growing distaste for field-labor, which opens up unpleasant problems for the agricultural future of the midlands.

In the winter of 1885-86, the distress in our village was very great. Young, strong men, some of them with a wife and babies to support, were for two, four, and sometimes six months without more than one day's work in a fortnight. With the splendid endurance of our laborers, no one begged. Last summer the excellent and energetic rector and two of his parishioners determined, in view of the coming winter, to help some of the young single men to emigrate to Australia, where an exceedingly advantageous opening had been found. What was their surprise, not to say disgust, when only three men out of the whole village came forward; and these three, after giving endless trouble, finished by saying, "Well, it wur a long way. They was afraid of the water. There was always a day's work to be got somewhere. They thought on the whole they'd rather stay at home. Why did we want for they to go? Did we want to get rid of they out of the place?"

Here is the average midland laborer in a nutshell: blindly devoted to the soil, to his native place, absolutely unadventurous, incapable of taking the initiative, not over-industrious, and afraid of unknown hardships, suspicious of any fresh proposal, without a spark of patriotism or public feeling. It is not that he is stupid—far from that. He reads his paper every day and understands it; he is sharp enough in managing his own concerns, and will work capably under good leadership if he can be persuaded that he has something to gain and nothing to lose. But he cannot endure taking an unaccustomed step. He is more than content to stay at home and run the risk of starving if only he may live in the same cottage, in the same village, doing the same work, earning the same wages, and exercising the Englishman's prerogative of grumbling all round.

R. G. K.

Correspondence.

THE EXCAVATIONS AT CROTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In a letter to the *Nation*, dated April 27, Prof. Rodolfo Lanciani has brought grievous charges against the conduct of the researches lately carried on, under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America, at the temple of Hera Lakinia, Croton. He nominally writes in reply to a note published in the same paper conjointly by Dr. Alfred Emerson and myself. He has chosen, however, to ignore altogether the part taken by my companion in the matter, thus devolving upon me alone the duty of justifying the steps taken in a work—certainly successful in scientific respects—the credit of which we share in equal measure.

The great Doric temple of Hera, near Croton, although the most famous monument of the Greeks in Italy, has, up to the present time, almost entirely escaped the attention of students of antique architecture. No representations whatever of its remains have hitherto been published. After the site of this building had been accurately surveyed by us—a work which occupied nearly a month—it was found to be desirable to un-

dertake some digging, in order to determine the extent of the plan and the character of certain parts of the superstructure. Permission to do this was obtained from the owner of the ground, indeed, of the entire Lakinian promontory—Baron Luigi Berlingieri, Sindaco of Cotrone, a gentleman to whose friendly interest and furtherance the work is greatly indebted. Before beginning the digging, we suggested to him that notification of the intended excavations should be sent to the authorities at Rome. Against this step he not only protested, he actually made it impossible by declaring that, should we recognize the right of other officials than those of Croton to grant permission for excavating the site, he would withdraw that given by himself. It subsequently became evident to us that this position was determined by a desire to uphold the laws obtaining in Calabria. The jurists of Cotrone, one of whom we consulted upon the point, hold that the decree published in Rome concerning archaeological explorations—the so-called *legge Pacca*—is applicable only to the Roman provinces; Calabria, in this respect, still enjoying the privileges granted by the edicts of 1823.* The owner of the ground sharing this view, and being himself the highest official in the district, it would have been futile for us to insist upon a contrary course. Moreover, the excavations at the temple were, in all that regarded the legal aspects of the case, undertaken not by us Americans, who claimed no part of the discoveries as a right, but by Baron Berlingieri, Mayor of Cotrone, who, we might reasonably assume, would commit no illegal act. As if in premonition of the question which has now arisen, that gentleman wrote, in his official capacity, to the prefect of the province, stating that he himself assumed all responsibility for the excavations. This document will be found on file at Catanzaro.

Can these facts be reconciled with the assertion, made by Prof. Lanciani, that "no permission was obtained from the local authorities"? Yet it is upon the implication of wrong in this respect that all his charges of "rebellion" and of "want of the most elementary principles of international and personal courtesy on the part of Mr. Clarke" are grounded.

In the sequestration of the objects discovered, the greater number were not taken from our hands, but from a dwelling of Baron Berlingieri, adjoining the site of the temple. A false impression is conveyed by the reference to the burial of these antiquities as a step taken "to protect and insure the preservation of ancient marbles," since many of the objects in question (such as fragile glass, and terracotta ornaments with delicate traces of painting) must have been broken and defaced by the stones and earth with which they were covered.

The digging was not carried on for a single moment after the suspension of the work had been decreed, and the first and only notification conveyed to us by a high official of Cotrone, who came to the Cape unaccompanied. Yet Prof. Lanciani states: "He (Clarke) was warned many times to stop his illegal proceedings; he did not pay the slightest attention to the warning. Finally, the Government was compelled to resort to the last argument in its power—the direct interference of the police." The character and intention of these assertions will become evident when I state that Prof. Lanciani, before the publication of his communication to you, had been clearly informed of the truth in regard to this point, through a letter from Dr. A. L. Frothingham, jr., one of the promoters of the undertaking.

*It is a fact—of no bearing upon the present question, indeed, but of interest as a sign of public opinion and the state of the law in Italy—that in Rome itself the *legge Pacca* has been successfully contested in court. Of this I am informed by a letter from an eminent archaeologist, dated Florence, May 2.

Prof. Lanciani has in your columns proclaimed himself to be "a person fully and minutely acquainted with Mr. Clarke's doings from beginning to end," and declares that "there is not a particle of truth in his [Clarke's] statements." Libellous personalities, such as these and other passages of the letter, are unworthy of notice. Concerning the points to which I have referred—and they are the only ones upon which Prof. Lanciani has based his attack—I must leave your readers to decide as to the relative correctness of our information and the veracity of our statements.

JOSEPH THACHER CLARKE.

HARROW, ENGLAND, May 9, 1887.

WHY HAVE WE NO SKYLARKS?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Is there any reason why we cannot acclimate the skylark? I believe it is only a question of method. Small numbers of them have been imported and turned loose, for example, on Long Island near Brooklyn; but though they seemed to do well at the time, they have not returned in the following spring. In other words, the attempts have been failures, and this has been because we commenced at the wrong end!

I will explain: The skylark is a migratory bird that lives on insects, of which our Northern winters furnish him no supply. To obtain this food he must go South, but he is a stranger in a strange land. I believe, from such study as I have been able to give it, that the migration of birds is not a mere exhibition of restlessness, but a result of the struggle for existence. A region becomes overstocked by them, and they wander in search of food and breeding-places. Instinct (inherited memory) carries them back to the winter home, whence in the following spring they return to the breeding-places of the year before.

Now, whether this reasoning is true or false, the fact is that the previous attempts at introduction have failed. There are no skylarks in our fields to tell of their success. As they have been found to live here during our summers, why not reverse the experiment, and give them a safe winter home from which they may overspread our land? Those that wander will return to the winter home when supplies fail elsewhere.

The proper course for us, then, is this: In the fall turn loose skylarks in two or three places in Florida, in southern Alabama, in southern Louisiana, in Texas near the mouth of the Rio Grande, and, to add to the chances, also in Cuba, as they would probably soon learn the way across the sea to Florida. From Florida they would extend up our eastern coast and in time reach our Northern States; from Alabama and Louisiana they would spread themselves over the Mississippi Valley.

I have been told that there are very many hawks in Florida, and that consequently the larks might be exterminated by them. I reply, give the lark a chance. We can only try, and who can estimate the pleasure that we should receive in return if the attempt were to be successful?

The same plan might be tried with the nightingale, that most wonderful of song-birds; the black thrush, mavis, thrush, a noted singer that one sees in Europe in the trees of cities; the migratory quail of Europe, of which many hundreds are said to have been introduced into our Northern States without success.

Cannot a subscription be started for the purpose of making a beginning in this matter?

J. S. PROUT.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., May 16, 1887.

[The nearest relative of the skylark, *Alauda arvensis*, which we have in this country is the

horned or shore lark, *Eremophila alpestris*. It is probable that the conditions which suit this bird best would also be most favorable to the naturalization of the skylark. The shore lark inhabits North America at large, breeding in all the treeless regions of the West, thence diagonally across the northwestern States to western New York, Canada, and Labrador. It winters in southerly portions of the United States at large. Probably the reasons why the attempts to naturalize the skylark have failed are two. First, the birds have not been imported in sufficient numbers; second, they have not been turned out in the right places. The experiment would be most likely to succeed if, say, 500 or 1,000 birds were liberated in the spring in some central unwooded locality, such as the eastern edge of the Great Plains in about the latitude of St. Louis. Birds liberated anywhere in the fall, and getting scattered the ensuing winter, would be less likely to find mates the following spring.—ED. NATION.]

THE BEVERLY INCIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The "Beverly Incident" is certainly not of sufficient consequence to allow of a controversy by correspondence in your columns. Permit me to say, however, that the statement of facts submitted by "Observer" in correction of "mistakes" in your own editorial is a piece of *ex-parte* testimony. Nearly all of his "facts" are in dispute, or are so conditioned by other facts, not stated, as to wear a color of falsehood. Upon the case as he puts it no contest would be made by good citizens; but the fact is that Essex County, in which public opinion on local affairs is intelligent and just to an unusual degree, was practically unanimously opposed to this measure, in which wealth has made its first invasion on that soil, and its opposition was accompanied by such an aroused public sentiment and expressed with such threatening decision that the Republicans became alarmed for their hold. No more unpopular bill has been in the Legislature for years; it was being passed against the popular will by the adroit and far-sighted use of money; and Gov. Ames's veto was a concession to the voters as against the legislators. Your own editorial was an admirable example of the power of the *Nation* to seize on the salient points of a case from the outside and at a distance, and to do substantial justice to the interests involved—a power which is a chief excellence of the paper. It is to be hoped that the specious "corrections" of a partisan will not be allowed by your readers to nullify your own sound and impartial original judgment.

Respectfully, GEO. E. WOODBERRY.
BEVERLY, MASS., May 28.

THE FIRST ISRAELITE IN MARYLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The Provincial Court Record of Maryland shows that in 1658 Jacob Lumbroso (Lumbroso), "ye Jew Doctor," was committed for blasphemy. Record of his trial has not yet been found, but he must have been acquitted or pardoned, for we learn from the published Archives that in 1663 he was granted letters of "denizacion," was drawn on a jury in 1664, and received a commission to trade with the Indians in 1665. He was said to be "late of Lisbon in the kingdom of Portugal." There still exists a large family in Tunis of the name Lumbroso, and a branch in Leghorn, a member of which is a well-known psycho-physicist. In 1864 or 1865 an American

Lumbroso visited Leghorn and inquired after his relatives. Information concerning the American branch of the family might assist in throwing some light on the history of Dr. Jacob Lumbroso, and would be gratefully received by

CYRUS ADLER.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, BALTIMORE,
May 27, 1887.

Notes.

"THIS unique combination," say Cassell & Co., speaking of a literary partnership for the purpose of writing a series of novels, "consists of Inspector Thomas Byrnes, Chief of the Detective Bureau of New York, and Julian Hawthorne, one of the most popular novelists of the day." The first product of this collaboration is to be called 'A Tragic Mystery.'

A. S. Barnes & Co. have in press 'Analytical Mechanics,' by Prof. W. G. Peck.

Laughton, Macdonald & Co., Boston, have in press, and will shortly issue, 'Ten of Us,' by S. B. Alexander, a volume of ten stories and sketches supposed to have been written by a party of young people.

D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, have been made the American agents for the London *Journal of Education*, a monthly record and review.

For the benefit of intending subscribers to the Seldon Society, whose foundation we lately announced, it may be well to add that a guinea, landed in England by means of a postal order, means about \$5.18.

Four more volumes in the pocket edition of Thackeray (London: Smith, Elder & Co.; Philadelphia: Lippincott) add to what have already appeared 'Henry Esmond,' 'The Yellowplush Papers,' 'The Hoggarty Diamond, etc.,' 'Major Gahagan, etc.'—a great number of small pieces being summed up in these "etc." The scarlet backs of this growing array ought to insure it a place with the Jubilee literature of 1887.

As if by way of compensation for the fine print of the Thackeray, we receive at the same time from J. B. Lippincott Co. the three latest volumes of the Library Edition of Scott's works, vol. 9, 'Ivanhoe,' vol. 10, 'The Monastery,' vol. 11, 'The Abbot,' a series admirable for its typography, and noticeably reasonable in price.

Miss Yonge, by her devotion to historical studies, her interesting style, and her ardent loyalty, was, as it were, designated by the nature of things to write the "Jubilee Book" of Queen Victoria. The tone and sentiment of her 'Victorian Half Century' (Macmillan) are what the well-known characteristics of the author would lead us to expect. Mr. Gladstone's accession to power in 1880 is mentioned with a sigh of regret; but the most important controversies of his administration, and even his subsequent loss of power, are barely mentioned, as being "in so undeveloped a state that they can hardly be entered on in this brief summary." The book is small, and the chronicle of events necessarily so brief as to be deficient in graphic quality.

Maj. James B. Pond's 'A Summer in England with Henry Ward Beecher (1876)' (Fords, Howard & Hulbert) and the 'Speeches of Henry Ward Beecher on the American Rebellion delivered in Great Britain in 1863' (Frank F. Lovell & Co.) are valuable records of the great orator's two very memorable visits to the Mother Country—the first a national service, the last a personal gratification, such as fall to the experience of few men. A fine portrait of Mr. Beecher accompanies the 'Summer in England.'

A 'Beecher Memorial' is being prepared by Mr. Edward W. Bok of Brooklyn for Mrs. Beecher and her family. Articles by President

Cleveland, Dr. O. W. Holmes, Mr. Gladstone, and the Duke of Argyll, and many other eminent Americans and foreigners, have been contributed. Only 100 copies will be for the public.

Mr. Frank C. Haddock has written the life of his father, the Rev. George C. Haddock, whose opposition to the saloons led to his assassination in Sioux City, Ia., on August 3, 1886 (Funk & Wagnalls). The volume is somewhat ponderous for a tract, but has its instructiveness for any one who is studying the temperance conflict in the Mississippi Valley.

Praise and welcome must be given together to the supplement to the Schaff-Herzog 'Encyclopædia of Religious Knowledge' called an 'Encyclopædia of Living Divines and Christian Workers of All Denominations in Europe and America,' edited by Dr. Philip Schaff and the Rev. Samuel Macauley Jackson, and published by Funk & Wagnalls. Great catholicity is shown in the selection of names, and the best taste in the preparation of the articles. The data presented have been obtained in most cases at first hand, and the collection forms a very valuable addition to our reference-books for "men of the time." It is even more comprehensive than its title implies, though omissions might be named. A new and revised edition of the Schaff-Herzog Encyclopædia is published simultaneously with this supplement.

Not long ago we paid our respects to Don Juan Valera's 'Pepita Jiménez' in its English dress. The Messrs. Appleton have now reproduced the original Spanish in an edition for which the greatest accuracy is claimed, the employment of the modern orthography of the Spanish Academy, the fullest matter (including the prologue specially written for the English version), and the unique distinction of illustrations—these last somewhat naïve, to be sure. The print is good and the binding attractive. Other volumes in Spanish will follow.

A hasty glance at 'Le Crime de la 5e Avenue,' by Marie Darcey (Paris: Paul Ollendorff; New York: F. W. Christern), serves to show that it is a translation of Anna Katherine Green's 'Leavenworth Case,' and the French plagiarist has not even taken the trouble to alter the names of the American author's characters. The same publishers also issue 'La Reine de Cuivre, par Blanche Roosevelt.' A third story by an American, 'Le Crucifix de Marzio,' by Mr. Marion Crawford, has just been brought to an end in the *Nouvelle Revue*; and we understand that several American authors are writing short stories which will appear first in French in *Les Lettres et les Arts*.

Probably the first illustrated translation of an American poem to appear in France since Maupassant made his huge and strange edition of Poe's 'Raven,' is 'La Dernière Feuille, poème, par O. V. Holmes, traduit du texte américain par B. H. Gausseron, illustrations par G. Wharton Edwards and F. Hopkinson-Smith' (Paris: Quantin; New York: F. W. Christern). The edition was limited to 800 copies at 25 francs—after which the plates were destroyed. *Le Livre* for May, praising the book very highly, and incidentally praising the progress of American art, declares that the French printers met with great difficulties, which they happily conquered.

Both the *Antiquary* and *Walford's Antiquarian* for May are interesting numbers, as is shown by the titles of some of the papers—"The Keys of the Old Bastille of Paris," "Coney-le-Château," "Old Roman Catholic Legends," in the *Antiquary*; "The Study of Coins," "An Unbowed Boicaccio," "The Kaballah," "The House of Aldus," "Bookselling in Little Britain," in the *Antiquarian*. The latter contains also part ii of "Cromwell and the Saddle-letter of Charles I.," by E. B. Chancellor, who declares

against the genuineness of the letter. An important article in the *Antiquary*, by Prof. W. M. Conway, is part i. of the description of 'Exercitium super pater noster,' "one of the most important books in relation to the history of printing and wood-engraving." Of this work only two copies are known to exist, one in Mons and one in Paris; and neither of these is perfect. Singularly enough, the article contains a detailed description of the book, but does not tell us where or when it was printed. Another interesting paper is upon "Bess of Hardwick," the vixenish Countess of Shrewsbury who was 'for some time the custodian of Mary Queen of Scots.

With the June number the *Art Amateur* begins a new volume (the 17th), with a new cover and design therefor, and is further distinguished by several extra supplements containing tinted facsimiles of figure and drapery studies by Sir Frederick Leighton. We would call the attention of all who are practically interested in composite photography to Mr. George G. Rockwood's article on this subject. He describes his method of adjusting the faces before the camera, and points out the excessive weight which blond faces have in any given series if allowed an equal exposure with darker. Mr. Rockwood gives a very pleasing composite portrait of nine young ladies in a literary club.

Santa Maria del Fiore occupies the whole of *L'illustrazione Italiana*, Milan, for May 8. The Florentine Duomo, from various points of view, the new façade and its architects, with some of the works of Donatello, are all well exhibited in large and small engravings. The text contains the history of the great undertaking which the city by the Arno has just been celebrating with so much pomp.

The Paris publisher Alphonse Lemerre is now issuing in parts, nine of which have already appeared, an 'Anthologie des poètes français du XIXe siècle.' The first *livraison* contains poems by Arnault, André and Marie-Joseph Chénier, Chateaubriand, Chénedollé, and the elder Legouvé.

M. Pagart d'Hermansart has recently published in an octavo pamphlet of twenty-one pages 'Les Cygnes de Saint-Omer. Fiefs et hommages. La garenne du roi' (Saint-Omer: H. d'Honnin). In this it is told how in all the north of France the right of keeping swans was a seigniorial privilege. In 1386 Philippe le Hardi, Duke of Burgundy, Count of Flanders and of Artois, expressly reserved for himself the "garenne des cygnes" in the lordship of Saint-Omer. Later, various sovereigns granted the right of placing swans in their "garenne" to certain lords. The swans disappeared almost entirely during the siege of Saint-Omer in 1638.

One of the descendants of Gen. de Durler lately gave to the Musée Carnavalet the last military order signed by Louis XVI. It is dated August 10, 1792, virtually the last day of the French monarchy. In it a company of the Swiss guard, under the command of Capt. de Durler, are ordered to cease all resistance and abandon the Tuileries, from which the royal family had just made its escape.

M. E. Bicauld de Verneuil, who died recently, left in manuscript a work which has now been published under the editorship of M. Alfred Richard. It is entitled 'Molière à Poitiers en 1648 et les comédiens dans cette ville de 1646 à 1658' (Paris: Lecène et Oudin). The author has not been able to discover any document which proves the presence of Molière at Poitiers in 1648, but he cites many circumstances worthy of consideration which bear upon the question. There is also much curious information concerning the various troupes of comedians who visited the town between 1646 and 1658, and the places where they gave their representations.

The announcement in the Paris papers of May 14 of the death of M. Schanne, "fabricant de jouets rue des Archives," has something in it incongruously pathetic. He was the last survivor of the friends of Henri Mürger, and figured in the famous 'Scènes de la vie de bohème' under the name of Schaunard. In the course of last year M. Schanne gave in the *Figaro* his recollections of Mürger and his friends, full of revelations concerning the vanished *vie de bohème* and its chronicler. These he afterwards collected and published under the title 'Mémoires de Schaunard' (Boston: Schoenhof).

—Madame Jane Dieulafoy, one of the few women who have been decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honor, contributes to the June *Harper's* the story of the archaeological discoveries at Susa by her brother and herself, for her share in which she received the distinction. The objects found are deposited in the Louvre, and the collection is soon to be opened to the public; pending that event, this sketch with its illustrations gives a general idea of what ancient art has gained by the excavations. The narrative of life at the ruins is told with great spirit, and the hardships and the courage incidental to the expedition show that it was not success alone that won for this brave and enthusiastic woman so exceptional an honor. The remainder of the number is excellent. Two economical papers, one by Dr. Ely upon the history and place of corporations in social organization, the other by Prof. Hadley upon the history of State railroad control, culminating in the Inter-State Commerce Act, deserve careful attention from those who watch the drift of modern institutions. A characteristic passage in a paper on the Kentucky pioneers has arrested our attention. The writer remarks that the original pioneer's "unwillingness to trouble the neighborhood with a trial of any infringement of his personal rights, as distinguished from property rights," has left results still observable; "among those who aspire to be considered the better class, suits for slander are unknown. In the history of the State there has not been a *crim. con.* trial. The slayer of a seducer has never been punished. And this remark applies to the best population of Kentucky, as distinguished from a class that is degraded and inferior, so often confounded with it, but which is in no sense of pioneer origin." The tone of this passage, which we italicize, is as observable as the fact. Outside Kentucky it is thought, by plain Americans of the common sort, that an "unwillingness to trouble the neighborhood with a trial" is just what characterizes Choctaws and scamps not citizens. Others than "slayers of seducers" go unpunished in Kentucky under this substitution of "the better class" for judges and juries; and honest men than "seducers" get "slain." But it is not often that one finds a writer in *Harper's* glorying in a usage of barbarism.

—Scribner's has for its leading article a sketch of some of the portraits and busts of Napoleon, by Mr. John C. Ropes, similar to his former paper upon the heads of Caesar, but not so complete. The frontispiece is a beautiful reproduction of Appiani's painting of Napoleon, made probably about 1796 or 1797, when he was the young general of the Army of Italy. It is a singularly charming picture, and the mixture of delicacy and nobility that characterizes it belongs also in some degree to three or four others of the early representations. The gradual hardening of the features and the filling out of the face are interesting to observe, though Napoleon did not grow old like Caesar, and the whole series displays less character. The Ceracchi bust, the David crayon, and the Gérard portrait are admirably given, and some caricatures are mingled with the rest. The body of the magazine is much occupied with

fiction. The principal serious article is a summary view of the development of democracy in this country as seen in the drift of its legislation, and is based by its author, Mr. F. G. Stimson, on his study of the statute laws. He notices the great and seemingly capricious differences in the public sentiment of the States taken severally, and finds "Georgia and Maine among the rashest experimenters, and Missouri and Oregon at the other extreme; while New York and Massachusetts, Nevada and New Mexico occupy a middle ground." He makes several leading inductions, as, that democracy has hitherto deemed the intoxication-habit more dangerous and sinful than incontinence or commercial dishonesty; that democracy tends towards sexual equality; that democracy tends not to force a man to pay his debts against his will, etc. His conclusions as to fact are fair and thorough, but his analysis as to causes and conditions might have been pushed much further and deeper; and on the whole there is a rigidity in his inferences which the state of our knowledge hardly justifies. He ends his article with a prophecy that private property, marriage and personal liberty from State control must stand or fall together. His definitions of Socialism, Anarchism, etc., are the best we have yet seen.

—Welcome as would be an improvement on Mr. Traill's 'Coleridge,' it is not found, by any means, in Mr. Hall Caine's sketch of the poet and philosopher, lately issued in London by Mr. Walter Scott. In every respect the new Life is marked by inferiority. Often repellently frivolous in its selection and handling of details, it does not rise, as a specimen of composition, even to the level of an ordinary newspaper leader. With no approach to style, Mr. Caine abounds in affectations, banalities, and mannerisms, besides being so obscure occasionally as to defy all attempts to unravel his meaning. Shaky enough is his scholarship, too. If a prudent man, he would not have left it to be noted by his critics, that his "pantisocracy" is not the word to signify "equal government of all," and that his "pantisocritions" is such a formation as *autocritions* would be, instead of *autocrats*. Equally significant is his "Elective Review"; and his calling Coleridge's patrons the "Wedgewoods" suggests great carelessness, or worse. And then there is his adverb "easier," with "extract" for "abstract," "a factor to be counted with," "calculable resources" for "resources to be calculated on," "she took this knowledge in trust from others," "in the interests of health," and similar things in profusion. "Bemuddledment," "dun-derheaded," "nincompoop," and "wishful" are expressions which betray his uncultured taste; and more vulgar pages than 121 and 136 are rarely met with nowadays. In short, Mr. Caine is, at best, an immature and inefficient bookwright. One need look through but very few of his paragraphs to discover that it can matter extremely little that, as he says, he has "been compelled to depart from" sundry "excellent authorities, in" his "rendering of certain incidents of the first importance, and in" his "general reading of Coleridge's character as a man." At the end of the book, and well worth its strikingly low price, is an excellent Coleridgean "Bibliography," which neither the title-page nor the prefatory "Note" in any way recognizes. It was compiled by Mr. John P. Anderson of the British Museum.

—Our Paris correspondent gave some account of Renan's 'Nouvelles Études d'Histoire Religieuse,' on its appearance some three years since, and we may therefore dismiss with a brief notice the anonymous translation which has just been issued by Scribner & Welford. It is a significant illustration of the activity of modern research

that the most elaborate and original of these studies—that on Joachim of Flora and the Everlasting Gospel—has already been rendered almost antiquated by the labors of Tocco, Denifle, and Ehrle. With all his learning and all his charm of exposition, Renan at the best is a very unsafe guide to follow. Misled, presumably, by one of the charges brought by the Commission of Anagni, he tells us that Joachim proclaimed the superiority of the Greek Church over the Latin, though Joachim's writings, which he assumes to have carefully studied, constantly abuse the Greek Church, especially for permitting priestly marriage; he asserts that Michele da Cesena's doctrines "étaient mot pour mot celles de Joachim telles que les interprétaient Jean de Parme et Gérard de San-Donnino," though Michele relentlessly burnt all professors of such doctrines on whom he could lay his hands, and his condemnation for heresy by John XXII. arose from an entirely different source; he represents Guglielmo of Milan as pretending to be the Holy Ghost incarnate, although she expressly denied the absurd supposition when it was suggested by her enthusiastic disciples; he declares that all the victims of the Inquisitions of Toulouse and Carcassonne were Beguines and Tertiaries, when the very authorities to which he refers show that but a small proportion of them were such; and he talks of these Beguines and Tertiaries being burnt by thousands, which is an unpardonable exaggeration, even allowing for his confounding the Beguines and Lollards of Germany with the Spiritual Franciscans and Fraticelli of France and Italy. He even goes out of his way to cite an author of the eleventh century, who says that Cathari were detected by their pallor, as a proof of the injustice done to the Joachites by the Inquisition in the fourteenth century.

—These blunders occur within the space of about a dozen pages, and it would be easy to multiply instances of similar carelessness and rashness of assertion; but they do not render M. Renan's writings a whit less readable, and one enjoys the sparkling style and epigrammatic incisiveness without troubling one's self too much about the accuracy of the facts or the correctness of the deductions. Of course, much of this charm evaporates in a translation, though on the whole this one is fairly done. A translator, however, ought to be acquainted with the subject as well as with the language of his author; had he been so in the present case we should probably have been spared such curious Gallicisms as "Jean de Parme," "Gérard Ségarelle," "Ubertain de Casal," "Michel de Césène," "ternaries" for "tertiaries," and numerous others, not to speak of the conspicuous nondescript "Joachim di Flor," which graces the running heads of nearly a hundred pages, in place of Joachim of Flora or Gioacchino di Fiore.

—The last number of *Le Livre*, page 213, contains an amusing paragraph about the method of writing the names of certain French authors, in which the alteration or misplacement of a letter, the presence or absence of a capital or of an accent, is said to overwhelm the owners with unhappiness. A blunder of the same kind, very possibly an intentional one, is made by *Le Livre* itself, in regard to an unlucky author whose personal and political enemies take a malicious pleasure in misrepresenting him in this way. M. Maxime Du Camp of the French Academy always writes his name in two words and with two capitals, which brings it under D in an alphabetical list, as it would also be if written Du camp, in one word. But *Le Livre* puts it under C besides unjustly attributing to him aristocratic pretensions, by the manner in which it gives his name in this very paragraph, with the *du* which he does not use. "A sure means of being disa-

greeable to M. Maxime du Camp," it there says, "is to write his name, as it should be written, *sans particule*." This is a refinement of malice. In the new volume of Gustave Flaubert's 'Correspondance,' published a few weeks ago (Paris: Charpentier; Boston: Schoenhof), of which an account was given in the *Nation* of May 5, Mme. Commanville, who edits her uncle's letters, writes the name herself Ducamp. But in a note to the first letter which she reprints from M. Du Camp's 'Souvenirs littéraires,' she twice writes Du Camp, as if the other form were an afterthought and intentional offence, in retaliation for his refusal to give up for publication all his old friend's letters to him, and also, probably, for the still worse offence in her eyes of revealing to the public the long-continued attacks of epilepsy from which her uncle suffered all his life—an entirely personal and selfish feeling on her part, for nothing in the 'Souvenirs' can have damaged Flaubert in the opinion of any one. On the contrary, by explaining many of his personal and literary peculiarities, it must have won for the man a sympathy and forbearance which he had never before excited, and at the same time in no way could it possibly have injured the appreciation of his readers for the admirable qualities of the artist.

—Dr. Otto Stoll of the University of Zurich, the distinguished traveller and ethnologist, has lately added to his well-known works on Central America a valuable monograph on the language of the Ixil Indians ('Die Sprache der Ixil Indianer,' Leipzig: F. A. Brockhaus). These Indians inhabit three small villages situated near the northern boundary of Guatemala, in the inmost recesses of the Sierra Madre, the great central mountain-chain of that republic. Their district is the most secluded portion of its territory, and the most difficult of access. The total population of the three villages does not now reach nine thousand souls, but in early times the tribe must have been much larger. In 1535, when Gonzalo de Alvarado made his campaign against the powerful confederacy of the Mam Indians, and besieged their King in his fortress, he was suddenly assailed by a wild array of painted Ixil warriors, eight thousand strong, who descended from their fastnesses to the relief of their beleaguered friends, and flung themselves, in repeated and desperate charges, on the besieging ranks. Against firearms and mail-clad cavaliers their efforts were useless, and, after suffering heavy losses, they withdrew to their mountains. In recent times they are noted for having preserved the life of the late Dictator Barrios, when he took refuge among them after the unsuccessful rebellion which preceded his attainment of the supreme power. Of their language nothing certain has hitherto been known, except that it was a branch of the Maya stock. Dr. Stoll, in a tour through Guatemala, made a brief stay among them, and used his time to good advantage in collecting the materials for the carefully analyzed grammar and full vocabulary with which he has supplied this deficiency. The whole Maya group of languages, as the author justly remarks, has a peculiar value in connection with the researches now in progress relating to the remarkable prehistoric civilization of Guatemala and Yucatan. The Ixil proves to be closely allied to the Mam language, but with some peculiarities which make it worthy of special study. In an appendix, the author adds vocabularies of three other little-known dialects of the Maya family—the Aguateca, Jacualteca, and Chuje—furnished to him by his friend, Prof. Edwin Rockstroh, who obtained them recently, while engaged in his duties as a member of the Boundary Commission for settling the long-disputed limits between Guatemala and Mexico.

LADD'S PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

Elements of Physiological Psychology. A Treatise on the Activities and Nature of the Mind, from the Physical and Experimental Point of View. By George T. Ladd, Professor of Philosophy in Yale University. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1887. 8vo, pp. 696.

EXPRESSING the pith and substance of countless books and special memoirs, physiological and psychological, with everything duly arranged, estimated, and criticised, Prof. Ladd's 'Elements' belongs to a class of manuals hitherto more frequently met with in the German than in the English tongue. The author's animus, in working over his vast array of facts and opinions, is evident. He wishes to be in a position to refute with *authority* the notion prevalent among a certain class of "advanced thinkers" that "Physiological Psychology" has driven "the older psychology" out of the field, and reduced it to the status of a mediæval superstition or an old wives' tale. As well might one say that what is sometimes called "chemical physics" has made chemistry henceforward obsolete. Physiological psychology is really nothing but a collection of experimental investigations, set apart for convenient study, but quite incapable of leading to any general conclusions without interpretation. And in the interpretation all the problems and difficulties of the "older" psychology come up afresh, and its "speculative" methods have to be used again. In giving us something vastly more exact and complete on the physiological side than those sorry writings of the Spencers, the Carpenters, the Maudsleys, and the Luyses, to which they have so long been pent up, Prof. Ladd earns the warm gratitude of all English readers. In his critical and general remarks he shows himself a worthy disciple of Lotze. His erudition, in short, and his broad-mindedness, are on a par with each other; and his volume will probably for many years to come be the standard work of reference on the subject, perhaps all the more so that it is the fruit of conscientiousness and intelligence rather than of genius.

The subjects commonly embraced under the title of physiological psychology are the general physiology of nerve tissue; the anatomy and physiology of the sense organs and nervous centres, and the duration of various processes therein, some accompanied by thought and others not; the subjective analysis and classification of sensations, and the connection between their intensity and quality and the amount and kind of objective stimulus which may call them forth; the analysis of space perception; the measurement of the accuracy of our recollection of sensible experiences, and of intervals of space and time; the ascertainment of the number of facts which consciousness can simultaneously discern; finally, that of the laws of oblivescence and retention. Of most of these topics, and of others less immediately experimental, such as the connection between feelings and movements, the cerebral process of attention, etc., Prof. Ladd gives an exceedingly complete account. The only omissions the present reviewer has noticed are relative to certain matters which are particular hobbies of his own. The pathology of the subject, including even the physiology of sleep, are omitted *in toto* and deliberately, for want of space. The only fault one can find with this part of the book is a certain over-docility in the author. Not pretending to be an original experimenter, it is natural that he should be receptive and respectful of the facts of the Wundts and the Helmholtzes. But a dash more of incredulity as to some of their opinions would have given his pages a spirit and character which they lack—for example, in the chapters on Space-perception, where the theories of "synthesis," which he follows, can hardly do

more than mystify the student by their vagueness, under the guise of enlightening him; and again, in the matter of *reaction-time*, where one fairly longs to hear him brush away the Wundtian verbosity, and call it the simple time of a *reflex act* (a transiently organized one, it is true), which it indubitably is.

However, it is not our purpose to dwell on such defects of detail. We prefer to pass to the more original part of Prof. Ladd's book, which forms its last subdivision and is entitled "The Nature of the Mind." To readers of Lotze this may be described as a very elaborate and minute working over of ground which that philosopher has already made his own. The result is a refined, but distinct and uncompromising, restatement of the spiritualistic position: "The assumption that the mind is a real being, which can be acted on by the brain, and which can act on the body through the brain, is the only one compatible with all the facts of experience." The extraordinary candor and patience with which Prof. Ladd works out this conclusion make it far more persuasive than it ordinarily appears to its adversaries—as when urged, for instance, in the fiery pages of Prof. Bowne. One is made to feel in detail all the difficulties which stand in the way of getting along without some real spiritual principle of unity, until at last their cumulative effect is very great. It is a rather sad feature, in all modern psychological theorizing, that it is the demerits of the other side, rather than the merits of one's own, that are apt to lead one to conclusions. The anti-spiritualists, so far as they are intelligent, swallow all the camels and endure all the beams which Prof. Ladd points out, not because they love camels or beams *per se*, but because they cannot stand certain particular gnats and moths in the spiritualistic theory. The chief stumbling-block there is the utter barrenness, for scientific purposes, of your real spiritual being, or principle of unity, when you have got him. What is the use of a principle from whose nature not one single *deduction* can be made, whose activities, properties, character, and destiny, all have to be gathered from that mass of empirical particulars, for the sake of overcoming the incoherence of which, the principle was originally invoked? The old-fashioned scholastic spiritualism could pretend to deduce immortality at least from the nature of its simple and substantial soul. But Prof. Ladd claims not even this, if we understand him rightly; and abstract reality, unity, and activity remain the only possessions of that spiritual subject whose general admission by psychologists he thinks it such an important point to gain.

The present reviewer is not arguing against the admission of such a being. He is only uttering a word of excuse for those who consider themselves entitled to turn their backs upon it, and to construct psychology exclusively out of the mind's multifarious organic conditions and sensational contents. They may be intellectual barbarians; but, after all, the barbarians are the indispensable agents of renovation in the world. They overthrow the ruins, break the soil, and set all things in motion. In short, they let the crude air of heaven in, and open men's minds to incalculable amounts of new material. The speculative philosophers are, intellectually considered, the gentlemen, and are absolutely needed to give some kind of intelligible shape to the raw facts and notions which the barbarians hit upon. But idleness and superciliousness are the hereditary vices of aristocracies; and the philosophers, when not stirred up by barbarian violence, always tend to go to sleep in the closed perfection of their systems. If left to themselves, never a fact do they discover. A very few men can both quarry materials with the barbarians and shape them with the philosophers. Lotze in our generation

is one of these, and, *longo intervallo*, Wundt. Mr. Ladd is their worthy follower.

One important fault we must find with the latter's philosophizing, although the point can hardly be dealt with at the end of an article. In fighting for the spiritual principle, our author seems to us to draw his line of defence in the wrong place altogether. He appears to think that *sensational* consciousness can be handed over freely to the materialists as their prey. It can be "correlated"—its intensities, orders, etc. explained psycho-physically. It is, as it were, foreign and passive material to the soul; which latter entity is required, not to explain the having of the sensations, but the relating of them together in the characteristic categories of our thinking—self-consciousness, spatial position, memory, causality, substance and attribute, and the like. Reiteratedly Mr. Ladd insists on the point that *these* mental phenomena cannot be conceived to have physical equivalents or analogues, while he seems to admit that sensations may. Of course this exaltation of thinking at the expense of feeling is in the line of orthodox Platonic and Aristotelic tradition. But is it not absolutely baseless? Surely the physically inexplicable thing is, that we should have any consciousness at all, not that we should have any one special sort of it rather than another.—*Knowledge* is the miracle; and knowledge is possessed by the sensation which takes cognizance of some bald quality of existence, as much as by the thought which knows everything about that quality and its relations to the rest of the world. No physiologist can explain either of these knowledges out of properties of the brain. The most the materialist can do is to borrow them and clap them on, as a ready-made addition, to the brain's other powers. There is only one absolutely unattackable statement, one statement which involves no element of hypothesis whatever; and that is that, as the brain state changes, consciousness floats off, and that each pulse of it is *one* thought as long as it lasts unaltered, no matter whether the object cognized by it be simple or compound. We call it thought proper in the latter case; in the former case, sensation. But the nature of the consciousness is always a function of the *total brain-state* at the time. All talk about "ideas" composing the thought, all talk about the share of this or that brain-tract in producing this or that idea, is hypothetical, and goes beyond the empirical facts. The latter, thus simply stated, do not oblige us to invoke any spiritual principle beyond the passing thought as an agent of unification, for the passing thought never was anything but a unit. Much of Prof. Ladd's reasoning thus seems to us to rest on insecure premises. It is only when we seek to go beyond the empirically given correspondence of thought and brain state, and to express it in more elementary terms, that we get entangled. "*Total brain-state*" is not the name of a physical fact at all; and this may end in leading us to considerations which force the notion of a spiritual ego, in spite of its barrenness, on our belief.

BOOKS ABOUT THE STAGE.

The Life and Life-Work of Samuel Phelps. By his nephew, W. May Phelps, and John Forbes-Robertson. London: Sampson Low & Co.; New York: Scribner & Welford.

Mrs. Siddons. By Nina A. Kennard. (Famous Women Series.) Boston: Roberts Bros.

Souvenirs et Études de Théâtre. Par P. Régnier, de la Comédie-Française. Paris: P. Ollendorff; New York: F. W. Christern.

Nos Théâtres de 1800 à 1880. Par Alphonse Leveaux. Paris: Tresse & Stock; New York: F. W. Christern.

Les Origines de l'Opéra Français. Par Charles Nutter et Ernest Thoinan. Paris: Plon; New York: F. W. Christern.

THE portrait of Samuel Phelps contained in the new and exact biography by his nephew and Mr. Forbes-Robertson is very different from that in the recent and more rollicking memoir by Mr. John Coleman, and it is perhaps a little too stiffly drawn to be quite true to nature. It may be doubted whether Samuel Phelps demanded two biographies when we have not one of either Charles Kemble or Thomas Abthorpe Cooper. Yet we have no wish to disparage Phelps, who was, as Mr. William Archer has aptly pointed out, the last of the line of British tragedians trained in the traditions of the British drama. He was an actor of almost the very first rank, a fine tragedian, and even finer comedian. As a manager he did noble work for eighteen years at Sadler's Wells Theatre. Yet he was kept under and forced to play second to Macready in his early manhood, and he was afterward overwhelmed by the splendor of Charles Kean's management. The book before us shows the strife between Phelps and Macready, and the strong dislike they both had for Charles Kean. We see again, as we could see in his 'Reminiscences,' that Macready was desperately jealous and inconceivably afraid of a supplanter; but we see also that he was, in the main, large-hearted and generous. As soon as he and Phelps ceased to be rivals, they became firm friends—united in good works and in contempt of Charles Kean. Like Macready, Phelps had a fondness for the poetic drama; he revived Leigh Hunt's "Legend of Florence," Mr. Browning's "Blot in the 'Scutcheon,'" and Mr. Boker's "Calaynos"; and he had made ready once to do an "Oedipus" of Lord Lytton's, with music by Mercadante. His career was as honorable to the history of the stage as his character was estimable. The present biography is a solid and substantial volume, making no literary pretence, abundant in dates, rich in reprinted criticisms, and perhaps a little too sparing in anecdote. It is rather the annals of Phelps's adventures as an actor and as a manager than a critical biography. But it is careful and conscientious. It has an index which seems to be sufficient. There are three portraits. In the fifth chapter are many hitherto unpublished letters of Dickens and Macready.

There were three biographies of Mrs. Siddons already existing in print before this new one by Mrs. Kennard, and yet this latest addition to the "Famous Women Series" is welcome, because it is at once briefer and better than any of the other lives of the greatest of English actresses. The authorized biography by Thomas Campbell—if, indeed, Campbell wrote it, which is more than doubtful—was inadequate and inflated. The life by James Boaden was one of a series of biographies into which he was trying arbitrarily to force the whole history of the English stage of the last quarter of the last century and the first quarter of this; and, moreover, it must be confessed that Boaden was not an inspiring writer. The chapters devoted to Mrs. Siddons in Mr. Percy Fitzgerald's 'Lives of the Kembles' are, like all his other writing, inconceivably careless and accidentally interesting. Mrs. Kennard tells the story of Mrs. Siddons's life with the aid of all that her predecessors have written, and of all the numberless references to the great actress in the memoirs and correspondence of the men and women of her day now very generally made public. She has availed herself diligently of all these sources of information, although we do not see that she has read the pages relating to Mrs. Siddons in the recent five-volume series of 'Actors and Actresses of Great Britain and the United States,' which would at least have called to her attention the remarkable notes of the act-

ing of Mrs. Siddons as *Lady Macbeth*, published by the late Prof. Fleeming Jenkin in the *Nineteenth Century*. But, on the whole, Mrs. Kennard has done her work very well. There are but two faults that we have to find with it. One is an excess of quotation from Mrs. Siddons's own not very good letters. The other is a little more serious: it is that Mrs. Kennard, having to write the lives of Rachel and Mrs. Siddons, probably the two greatest actresses who ever lived, did not study more carefully the principles of the art of acting. If she had mastered Diderot's 'Paradoxe sur le Comédien,' if she had read Mr. Henry Irving's preface to Mr. Pollock's translation of Diderot, or if she had digested Lewes's reflections "On Actors and the Art of Acting," she could never have written as she does (p. 157):

"We imagine there is no law to be laid down on the subject of the amount of feeling an actor really puts into the part he is enacting. It must vary. Conventionality must, with the greatest of them, now and then take the place of emotion; or, as Talma expresses it, the 'métier' must now and then take the place of *le vrai*."

This is rank heresy, and the quotation from Talma is made to bear a forced and false interpretation. Equally wrong are the views expressed on p. 164:

"An artist gets certain words to utter; he gets the skeleton sketch, as it were, of the character he has to portray; but the emphasis and passion he puts into them, which go direct from his heart to the heart of his audience, must be his and his alone, and must be as little as possible the effect of study or deliberation."

A perusal of M. Coquelin's article in the May *Harper's* or of his lecture on "L'Art et le Comédien" will show Mrs. Kennard what an erroneous view of histrionic art she has taken in the passages quoted. Or she may study with advantage the 'Souvenirs et Études de Théâtre,' a posthumous collection of critical and biographical papers by M. Coquelin's master, the late M. Régnier of the Comédie-Française. The essays having to do with the art of acting are those on Mlle. de Champmeslé, Adrienne Lecouvreur, and Talma. Régnier, who had made his first appearance on the stage in 1811, in an unprompted celebration of the birth of the King of Rome, was taken by his grandmother to the Théâtre-Français April 2, 1814, the first night the house was opened after the return of the Bourbons, and then he saw Talma act in "Iphigénie." Later he became intimate with the greatest of French actors, and there is, perhaps, nowhere any better account of Talma's character, of his private habits, of his ways of thinking as an artist, of his personal peculiarities than can be found in these few pages of Régnier's. Especially interesting is his analysis of the relations between Talma and Napoleon. In considering the career of Adrienne Lecouvreur, Régnier digresses into a curious inquiry as to the effect which the increased facilities of lighting the stage may have had on the art of acting. Mr. Henry Irving is wont to tell an anecdote of the wrath of Edmund Kean when his *Iago* tried to thrust him out of the "focus"—the single position on the stage at which the dim lamps of those days made the actors' features best visible to the spectators. Régnier recalled the stage of the Théâtre Français in 1822, lighted by forty lamps. In 1833 gas took the place of oil; in 1847 the quantity of burners was again greatly increased; since then many devices have been adopted still further to flood the stage with light. "Well," Régnier records, "this steady increase of illumination is for me, I seriously declare, of no appreciable value. It seems to me that I saw Talma and Mlle. Mars as well sixty years ago as I see the actors of to-day." M. Régnier's book is adorned with a portrait etched by M. Blanchard and by five head-and-medallion portraits by M. G. Clairin.

M. Leveaux's little book on 'Nos Théâtres de 1800 à 1880' is rather a classified summary of French dramatic productions during this century than the consideration of the theatres of Paris which the title seemed to promise. M. Leveaux has provided here an easy and unpretending account of the changes and developments of the various branches of dramatic art in France. Although now well stricken in years, he is no praiser of past times, but sees much which is better to-day than it was yesterday; and an optimistic old man is likely to take a healthy view of things. So this little book of M. Leveaux's may be commended to the perusal of the pessimists who prate about the decline of the drama. One example of progress that M. Leveaux cites is the great improvement of late years in the quality of the orchestras of the chief Parisian musical theatres. M. Leveaux may be remembered as the author of a pleasant account of the Imperial Theatre at Compiègne, and he was also a partner of M. Labiche's in writing that most delightful drollery, 'La Grammaire,' although he had to sign this with a pseudonym, as the conjunction on a programme of Leveaux and Labiche was not to be ventured on.

M. Charles Nutter is the librarian of the Opéra in Paris, to whose loving care an admirable and rapidly increasing collection owes its organization and its present commodious quarters in the former Imperial Pavilion. Besides being a librettist of distinction, he is a diligent student of theatrical history. In collaboration with M. Ernest Thoinan, also a conscientious investigator, he has now done for Lulli, Perrin, and the early history of the Opéra what Eudore Soulié did for Molière and the early history of the Comédie-Française. By permission of the Chamber of Notaries, the authors searched through the legal documents of Lulli, Perrin, Cambert, etc., as still preserved in the studies of the successors of the notaries who drew them up. The discoveries thus made were confirmed by references to the official archives at the National Library, at the Prefecture of Police and the Conciergerie, at the Comédie-Française, and elsewhere. In short, instead of copying the blunders of those who had hitherto written ignorantly on the subject, they went to work in a scientific spirit and investigated for themselves, with the natural result of upsetting nearly all the received theories in regard to the founding of the Opéra. Space fails even to indicate the extent of their curious discoveries, chief among which, as we lately pointed out, is a semi-rehabilitation of that wily Italian, Lulli. A word of special praise is due to the introductory chapter on the French court-ballets—closely akin to the English masques in which Ben Jonson and Inigo Jones worked together; from these court-ballets modern French opera may be said to have been evolved.

CENTRAL ASIA.

England and Russia Face to Face in Asia. Travels with the Afghan Boundary Commission. By Lieut. A. C. Yate, Bombay Staff Corps. London: Blackwood & Sons. 1887.

It was in the spring of 1885 that the long-expected and much-talked-of struggle between Russia and England for supremacy in Asia seemed actually to have commenced. It had been arranged between the two Governments that a joint Commission should meet and mark out the frontier which was henceforth to divide the Asiatic possessions of the Czar from the territories of the Amir of Afghanistan. The British half of this Commission was already on the spot; the Russian half was expected shortly to arrive—when suddenly the world was startled by the intelligence that a Russian force under Gen. Koma-

roff had attacked and defeated with heavy loss an Afghan force. At once rose a babel of re-criminatory voices. The Russians protested that the Afghans had no business to be where they were; the village of Panjdeh, which they had occupied, had always been included in the Khanate of Khiva, and its occupation at the present moment was an impudent attempt on the part of the Afghans to prejudice the line of frontier in their favor. Now, as the Afghans had occupied the disputed position at the instigation of the English Boundary Commission, the latter was of course equally loud and positive that they had an unquestionable right to do so; and the position was such that neither England nor Russia could make a concession to the other without seeming to yield to fear. Happily, at the eleventh hour, a collision was averted by the physical impossibility of getting either a Russian or a British army on to the contested ground. This gave time for reflection; reflection, in its turn, led to inquiry; and inquiry convinced most reasonable persons that the Russian General was right in his contention, and the Afghans had no business in Panjdeh. Sir Peter Lumsden, the chief of the English Boundary Commission, was recalled to London, and the marking out of the frontier was then proceeded with.

Lieut. Yate, the author of this book, was attached to the English Boundary Commission, accompanied it on its march from India through an unexplored portion of Afghanistan, and remained with it through the greater part of its adventures in Central Asia. Had he chosen to take the trouble, he might have written a book giving important information of the wild peoples in this little-known portion of the world, and the position of Russia among them; but he has not chosen. He has preferred to bind up in a single cover the letters sent by him from day to day for publication in an Indian paper, and the result is a book of amazing prolixity and dullness. Information there doubtless is to be found here and there, but it is hidden away under such a quantity of insignificant detail as practically to be undiscoverable. As a contribution to the study of the Central Asiatic question, the book is worthless; but, in another way, Lieut. Yate's letters are highly instructive and even amusing. He apologizes, in his preface, for offering these letters to the public in lieu of a continuous composition, on the ground that "the vivid impressions of the moment give often a truer conception of events than a carefully considered narrative written a year later." The statement is highly questionable, but there can be no doubt that "the vivid impressions of the moment give a truer conception" of the feelings of an actor in any occurrence than "a carefully considered narrative written a year later." As a description of the feelings with which the English Boundary Commission entered upon their work, Lieut. Yate's narrative is comically instructive, and few who read it will doubt that, if feelings at all similar prevailed among the Russians, the slaughter of the Afghans which took place at the battle of Pul-i-Khishti was practically inevitable.

The cardinal doctrine in the political faith of a British Jingo is that the British nation is in possession of a right divine to appropriate for its own use any part of the earth's surface which the protection, real or fancied, of "British interests" may require. This right extends to Paris, New York, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and the like places, although, for obvious reasons it is, as regards these centres of civilization, practically in abeyance. Not so, however, with Upper Burmah, Afghanistan, Persia, Herat, etc. These Great Britain may take over at any moment with a conscience void of offence; but that the right is single and peculiar to herself is seen in the moral indignation

aroused in the virtuous British Jingo by the spectacle of Russian aggressiveness. The English Boundary Commission, composed as it was exclusively of Indian officials, were, it is almost needless to say, Jingoed to a man, and, to judge from Lieut. Yate's letters, they entered upon their labors in the spirit of Crusaders about to carry on a holy war. They were resolved not to be overreached by the fraudulent wiles of the Russian. They were filled with a devout enthusiasm for the "legal rights" of the Amir and the liberties of the Turcoman. They knew beforehand that the Russian authorities could put forth no claims which were not unjust, could assert nothing which was not untrue, could attempt no action which was not dictated by a spirit of fraud and aggression. They had, in a word, taken the field determined to believe nothing good, and greedily to swallow all of evil that could be alleged of those with whom they were expected to cooperate peacefully. And if, as is not unlikely, similar prepossessions prevailed in the Russian camp, the collision that ensued can surprise no one. The poor Afghans had unhappily to "pay the piper." They bitterly complained, as Lieut. Yate acknowledges, that they had been "egged on" to fight, and then left to their fate by their instigators. Gen. Kormaroff was really fighting the English Commission when he attacked the Afghans at Pul-i-Khishti.

For the rest, Lieut. Yate bears ample, though reluctant, testimony to the good work which Russia is doing in these savage and unfrequented countries. His letters, like all previous accounts, show that everywhere there are indications which prove that the flourishing cities and the abundant populations once supposed to be located there were no mere fables or exaggerations of the old Oriental historians. The vestiges of those better times still survive. The capabilities of the soil are great beyond measure: it needs only to be broken up by the plough. But cities and people have alike vanished before Oriental misrule and the depredations of the raiding Turcomans. The Russian advance suppresses both the one and the other. Thus Lieut. Yate writes:

"In viewing the Russian subjugation of Central Asia, one is apt at times to overlook the immense boon that they have conferred on the population of Northern Persia and Afghanistan by putting a bit in the mouth of those inveterate ruthless marauders, the Turkomans. . . . As an instance of the utter destitution and depopulation resulting from the unbridled rapacity of the Turkomans, Sir Peter Lumsden's party state that between Tarakhs and Kuhsan they scarcely met half-a-dozen human beings. . . . The truth is, that the Persian and Afghan Governments have neither possessed the power nor displayed the spirit and energy requisite for coping with these lawless tribes, which, too lazy to till the soil, and finding pastoral pursuits but little profitable, adopted the simpler and more attractive means of livelihood afforded by looting and selling into captivity their neighbors. . . . To this unequal struggle—affording to the Turkomans all the pleasures of the chase, combined with the risks and excitements of war, and attended by considerable pecuniary gain, and spreading ruin and devastation over the greater part of Khorasan—the Russian advance imposed an effectual check, and the occupation of Merv . . . has finally put an end to it."

And in another place:

"It is not surprising that the subjugation of the Turkomans should have gained for Russia fame throughout Asia. The mere liberation of thousands of Persian and Afghan captives is no small claim to gratitude. Even to the Turkomans, once subdued, she seems to have obeyed with conciliatory moderation. . . . The Russians have remitted, I hear, to all their Turkoman subjects all taxes for seven years from date of annexation, and, after that, a tithe of the produce of the soil and one per cent. of the flocks and herds, will be taken. One cannot find fault with them for seeking to conciliate their own subjects. It is the right policy. . . . I have heard more than one Turk, taken prisoner during

the war of 1876-77, laud Russian kindness. This is part of a prescient policy. Even the Afghans wounded at Panjdeh have, I hear, received every care and attention in the Russian hospitals."

The pity of it is that the British people, instead of cooperating with Russia in this beneficent work, should follow it with unceasing distrust and suspicion; should assail her with invective and abuse at every advance in it. Lieut. Yate's letters are, of course, full of the wonted lunacies of the British Russophobists. Among the crazes of these people is a specially rabid one for projecting interminable lines of railway across desert places in order to attack Russia in front, flank, and rear simultaneously. Lieut. Yate maps out about half-a-dozen of these lunatic railways, the joint cost of which, if constructed and adequately defended, would come to about one hundred million pounds. And yet his own reasoning goes to show that if the English in India desire to be absolutely safe from Russian attack, all they have to do is to await it in India.

"Supposing," he writes, "that Herat falls, and a Russian army, 100,000 strong, advances on Kandahar, the most arduous part of its task is but just beginning. It remains to be proved if they can collect transport for the movement of a force of 100,000 men, and if they can feed such a large force. In the Afghan campaigns from 1878-80, the largest British force in the field was about 60,000 men; and with all the resources of India, with its two hundred and fifty millions of inhabitants at Government disposal, it was no easy matter to provide an army even of that size with transport. How, then, is Russia, with nothing but semi-sterile steppes, with some half-dozen millions of settlers to draw upon, to transport 100,000 men from Herat to the Helmund?"

This, beyond all question, is sound reasoning. But if the difficulties of moving a large force from Herat to the Helmund—a distance of 250 miles—be so stupendous, how insuperable would they become if the advance had to be extended 600 miles beyond it—i. e., to the Indus instead of the Helmund. What the British Russophobist cannot be got to understand is, that the difficulties of an invasion of India are diminished in precisely the same proportion that British authority is extended over Afghanistan. His policy—the policy that finds favor in Calcutta and Downing Street equally—is persistently to eat into the dominions of the Amir, and undermine his authority as an independent sovereign. The result of this policy is, that, in the event of a war, the British troops will have to fight with defiles and deserts in their rear, instead of having compelled Russia to fight under those disadvantageous conditions.

Waste-Land Wanderings. By Charles C. Abbott, M.D. Harpers. 1887. 8vo, pp. xii, 312.

In this very pleasant book, the author of 'Upland and Meadow' has given us another chronicle of his observations along the creeks, through the pastures, and by the old "worm fences" of his New Jersey home. The recital is perhaps a little less lively than the one which preceded it, but does not suffer on that account; and, for those who love such flavor of hedge and meadow as may be conveyed through the medium of printed pages, the volume will be equally welcome. Among the numerous matters discussed are the mating of birds, the winter avifauna of the region, Indian modes of fishing, the sense of direction and the burrowing of animals, and numerous quaint and more or less inaccurate natural-history records by early settlers or bookmakers.

Dr. Abbott, like most of us, is somewhat disposed to resent criticism, but there is evidence in the more guarded statements of the present volume that he has profited by criticism on his earlier writings of this kind. If such books are to be regarded as mere literature, which, it is to be presumed, he would deny as positively as any of

his critics, it would not be worth while to discuss whether his work does or does not contain errors of statement which, taken literally, vitiate its reliability as a record. But if it is to be regarded as the observations of a naturalist enshrined in a literary setting, and hereafter to be referred to by naturalists of the twentieth century as a picture of New Jersey faunal life in A. D. 1886, it is perfectly in order to point out that it is sometimes more precise than accurate, and occasionally seriously mistaken. As a naturalist bent on probing the mysteries of nature, Dr. Abbott would doubtless be the last person to object to criticism intended solely to eliminate obscurity and error. We shall therefore proceed to call attention to several points where haste in writing or faulty identification of species has allowed error to creep in.

In his account (p. 180) of the supposed aestivation of *Hesperomys* (a proposition entirely possible, but as yet unverified by any purely scientific observer, and therefore interesting to establish) it is stated that a family of white-footed mice was found in the torpid state in the summer of 1884. They were seven hours in being waked up by being placed in a cool spot; were replaced in the nest, which they then abandoned, but returned to next day. "Three days later these mice were found in precisely the same condition. Time, noon; thermometer 106° F." They were "taken directly to a cellar forty-two degrees cooler than the open field." "The young died in one hour; the old mouse in less than three hours," of the shock (p. 181). On the next page, however, we read that the author "carefully removed these mice from the field and placed them near a stove, so that the midday temperature could be maintained. The result was the continuance of the dormant condition for eighty-four hours." But, as indicated by the above quotations, the mice had died some nine hours before! Evidently the last-mentioned experiment proves too much.

We read (p. 50) of the blue-bird: "Prominent among our resident birds. . . . Since 1874 I have recorded them 3,400 times." This is possible, but it certainly shows great industry and misplaced activity, in the case of a bird known to be a resident, that its presence should be formally recorded every day, barring Sundays, for ten years, as is required by the numeral given. "A lonely chat" (p. 18) is referred to, under date of July 29, as "perhaps the last of the season," but the chat is a summer resident, as no one knows better than Dr. Abbott.

In his endeavor to uphold his surprising hypothesis that many if not most birds mate permanently, the author (p. 56) is "fully convinced" that the same individual pairs of "song thrushes, brown thrushes, catbirds, chats, house wrens, vireos of three species," etc., reappeared from year to year. As the birds above mentioned have both sexes similarly feathered and only to be distinguished by dissection or extremely critical measurements, most ornithologists will doubt the accuracy of the identification until more weighty evidence is adduced. The records of the observers of bird migration, though still in manuscript, show beyond question that the male Baltimore oriole arrives from five to eight days before the female at a given northern point, the two sexes proceeding separately in successive "waves." When Dr. Abbott (p. 57) observes the male joined by the female "a few hours later," it only shows that the male had been there, or near by, unobserved, at least five days.

"Trail's flycatcher," a bird which is not known in summer in New Jersey, is doubtless an erroneous identification. The note described shows that the bird was the Least Flycatcher. The woodwren (p. 118) is spoken of as having darker feathers than the housewren. It is not clear what species is intended, but the fact cannot be

controverted that between the real wood and housewrens, so called, there is not any difference of shade whatever, except such as may be due to accidental soiling of the feathers. On page 200, a frog is represented as having swallowed four young "wood-tattlers." Now the wood-tattler (*Totanus solitarius*) is a bird which breeds in the high north. Its very eggs are unknown from the United States, and the meal of the aforesaid frog was doubtless made on the young of a very different bird. "Green lizard" (p. 255) should be gray lizard; the green species only lives much further south. In the list of winter birds "both kinglets" are included (p. 285). The golden-crested kinglet winters in New Jersey, but the ruby-crowned one has not yet been authenticated by winter specimens from that region. The identity of the "grass-finch" (p. 291) is doubtful; if it is the true grass-finch (*Pooecetes gramineus*), it stands in the same category as the preceding. Ornithologists would be grateful to Dr. Abbott for material substantiating his observations, which it is quite possible may not be in error. The occurrence of swarming of red ants in New Jersey in October (p. 88) is so remarkable an incident that more details might have been given. It appears to be as yet unknown to our best formicologists.

The above citations, made in no unfriendly spirit, will, we hope, lead to greater circumspection in the preparation of the future volumes which we may anticipate from this agreeable writer.

Anne Gilchrist: Her Life and Writings. Edited by Herbert Harlakenden Gilchrist. With a prefatory notice by William Michael Rossetti. Scribner & Welford. 1887.

The artistic taste which is shown in the making and embellishment of this volume confers a certain distinction upon it, and arouses expectations of some unusual charm in the text. It is true that the subject of it, Mrs. Gilchrist, the wife of the unfortunate and talented art critic who wrote the Life of William Blake, contributed nothing to literature; but she left a pleasant memory to her circle, and to attest this seems to be the principal object of her biography. She was herself an attractive person, possessed of a frank and eminently womanly nature; but as this found only a limited expression, one learns to know her rather by Mr. Rossetti's description in his very brief prefatory notice than by her own words or acts. Womanliness is a charm which works so much more powerfully in person, however, than in any description, that one finds himself mostly occupied with what is usually the secondary interest of a biography—the people whom the lady knew. We are taken into the group of artists of whom Dante Rossetti has become the most famous. Some simple, manly letters of his, essentially private, reveal his nature in a kindly light, and there are a few glimpses of other members of the set as well as of the Carlyles and Tennyson. Excepting with the Rossettis, Mrs. Gilchrist's acquaintance with these distinguished men was hardly more than casual, though extremely cordial while it lasted. Her husband's early death left her with four young children to bring up, and she retained the interest and regard of his old friends with exceptional success, so that her home never lost its intellectual character; but her life was necessarily a confined one, and her correspondence deals with personal matters. It is agreeable to observe that all of the irritable race of authors and artists who come on the stage behave themselves with exemplary kindness and good feeling; it is not often that worldly observation steals on such a covey of them at so happy a moment.

The great fact of the book, both in Mr. Rossetti's preface, in the Life, and in the subjoined es-

says by Mrs. Gilchrist, is her advocacy of the merits of Walt Whitman. She was captivated by the volume of selections by which Mr. Rossetti introduced him to the English, and she then read his works entire; at a later time she made a long stay in this country and formed an intimate friendship with the poet, which continued unbroken until her death. She regarded herself as especially fitted to promulgate Walt Whitman because she was a woman, and her writings upon him show a quick sentiment and a comprehension of the great lines along which his feelings and ideas move; but they cannot be looked upon as criticism. It is to be remembered by those who may judge too hastily of the wisdom of Mrs. Gilchrist's course in this matter, that she had completed her husband's Life of Blake, with Dante Rossetti's invaluable aid, years before, and had consequently long been familiar with erratic notions upon delicate subjects; and doubtless, too, the peculiar moral prepossessions of the æsthetic group to which she was so nearly allied in culture, counted in her judgment upon the tabooed portion of Walt Whitman's works. But it is at least open to debate whether the poet's reputation is really served by having a woman champion him, since that very fact only tends to bring out more sharply those parts of his verses which are most likely to offend and are of least value, even were their place to be granted. Mrs. Gilchrist, however, chose to do this, and her friends sustained her, and her son honorably upholds her by setting forth her friendship with Walt Whitman and her public approval of him as one of her most important doings in life. Certainly there seems to be as little harm as good in the affair; but with regard to the chances of posterity being very grateful to Mrs. Gilchrist for this, Americans must still politely but firmly differ from their English friends.

The book is destined to form a readable chapter in the history of the Rossetti group, which is sure to be an important episode of our century in literature and art; and one is glad to know that so excellent an Englishwoman will figure in it.

Mr. Rossetti sums up her life as one "of earnest, warm, and unfettered simplicity, holding an even and sensitive balance between the claims of family affection and those of intellectual activity." As an Englishwoman who linked ordinary duty with a culture strictly limited within very peculiar lines of art and thought, her character has a curious interest. The reminiscences of the distinguished are a good sauce to the volume; its eccentricities are bone of its bone.

Cycling. By Viscount Bury and G. Lacy Hillier. With numerous illustrations by Viscount Bury and Joseph Pennell. London: Longmans: Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1887.

WHAT matter can be named of more ancient or more general interest than cycling? Since Adam's day has not each mother's son and daughter of us been a cyclist, bound as we all are to our rims of latitude, peripheries which whirl us on through space from west to east at a rate which entitles us all to championship honors? Really, what greater distinction has the nineteenth century than that it has found a way to make sport of this everlasting rolling to which we are all doomed? What ought to interest the world more than a good treatise upon cycling? and how singular that until this elegant volume appeared, man, in spite of his long experience as a wheelman, had produced no such book.

The "Badminton Library of Sports and Pastimes," as our readers know, is an English series designed to treat thoroughly the ways in which the Britisher gets his air and exercise. It is edited by the Duke of Beaufort and dedicated to the Prince of Wales. The volume upon 'Cycling,'

written jointly by a Viscount, President of the National Cyclists' Union, and by one of the most noted of English wheelmen, will, no doubt, receive at home a reception adequate to an enterprise so augustly fathered and chaperoned. It deserves also a good reception elsewhere. The information given is accurate and wide in its range. The historical phase of the subject receives attention. How to ride, to race, to tour; how to dress, to prepare racing paths, to form clubs; how the machines are made; how women as well as men may enjoyably and profitably mount the wheel—all these topics are discussed intelligently and fully in the 450 pages. There is often a breezy grace in the literary workmanship, born no doubt of the sport itself; one feels that the hand that shapes the sentences has just pressed the brake in some daring coast, or guided the machine in a vigorous spin. The illustrations are often admirable. The *Century* has made the world familiar with Mr. Pennell's pictures of cycling, and his work in this volume does not fall behind his previous achievements.

As offered to the American public, the capital defect of the book is that it is so exclusively English. American cycling is seldom mentioned, and still more seldom the sport elsewhere. Additional chapters are certainly needed to adapt it to the wants of our wheelmen, and it is strange that a book in which we are so ignored should seek an American market. Cycling has, on this side the ocean, too, an interesting history; we have had our bold riders, whose deeds deserve celebration. Since conditions here are so different from those in the Old World, a consideration of how the machine and the sport should be modified to suit those conditions is very requisite. Aside from this capital defect, there are minor blemishes. The Humber machines are without doubt good, but several other types are, in American eyes, equally good, and do not deserve to be neglected while the Humbers are extolled. The slot in the shoe, a contrivance in this book highly commended, is among us almost entirely out of use, as is also the rat-trap pedal, except for racing purposes. It is strange to find the cinder path so highly commended, American experience showing beyond all question that clay is faster, safer, and in all respects preferable. Almost all world records, except the fifty miles by Falconer, have been made on American clay tracks. The book naturally regards cycling, for the most part, as a means of sport and exercise; while it by no means leaves unmentioned its possibilities as regards the practical purposes of life, it would have been well to dwell upon these still more.

After mentioning these shortcomings, we are glad to say we have found 'Cycling' extremely fascinating, and believe it ought to do much, even on this side of the Atlantic, to foster the love of the exercise. Let it not be thought that the wheel is a thing of interest simply to bounding youth. 'Cycling' gives us the portrait of Lord Bury, mounted upon a Humber roadster—a white-whiskered veteran well on in years, whose athletic grace, however, is no doubt won from the pastime, of which, as head of the N. C. U., he is in England the most prominent exponent. We happen to know that Samuel Rawson Gardiner, in some ways the first historian of England, forsaking his researches in the British Museum and Public Archives, crosses, with his accomplished wife as a companion, to France, and, for a vacation, does a few departments on a tandem; and this, though close upon sixty. We know, moreover, of an American professor on the shady side of fifty, with eyes bleared over strange alphabets, and legs crooked by long cramping under a class-room desk, who almost shook himself back into youth again as he pedalled a tricycle last summer through the English Midlands, drinking in the beauty of the summer landscape, while his

shrunk calves, responding to the exercise, distended his knickerbockers to the admiration of all beholders. Henceforth he is a wheelman for this life; and if, for his sins, it falls to him hereafter to receive the doom of Ixion, he is quite reconciled to being a cyclist in more worlds than one.

American Ancestry, giving the Name and Descent, in the Male Line, of Americans whose Ancestors Settled in the United States previous to the Declaration of Independence, A. D. 1776. By Thomas P. Hughes. Vol. I. City of Albany. Albany: Joel Munsell's Sons. 1887. 8vo, pp. 100.

THIS book, as the initial volume of the proposed enterprise, is surely one of the curiosities of literature. That enterprise apparently is to take every portion of the United States, and to record the pedigree of all Americans coming under the definition of the title-page. Of course, there is no objection to such a work, because that definition really means only the separation of old settlers from new-comers, and points out the interesting fact that in certain parts of the country the records of vital statistics are more full than they are in Europe. That is to say, an Englishman of ordinary condition, an artisan, farmer, or tradesman, can hardly hope to trace his ancestry for eight generations; but, in most of our old colonies, the "American," as above defined, can easily do it. The same difficulty also extends to other parts of Europe, and if the distinction be worth anything, there is no harm in claiming it. Of course, our town histories and family genealogies have been doing the same work. Mr. Hughes varies it by taking a city, that agglomeration of extracts from rural districts, and dealing with the persons living there at the time. In fact, he makes a kind of glorified directory of that city, very much on the plan of 'Our First Families' and similar literature, excluding, however, all personal praise of the present generation. It is needless to add that only subscribers to the book can be recorded in it, because the general circulation must be very limited. While many persons would pay to read scandal against even the grandfather of some aspiring and successful neighbor, few will pay to learn that his progenitors were really very decent and respectable subjects of King George.

The editor seems to be honest and capable, and it may well be that he has struck upon a new and profitable vein of compilation. Of course, no literary talent is exercised, and criticism is limited to the apparent correctness of the pedigrees. In fact, "for persons who like this kind of a book it is just the kind of a book they will like."

The Story of Ancient Egypt. By George Rawlinson, M. A., Camden Professor of Ancient History in the University of Oxford, etc. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1887.

OF all the volumes of "The Story of the Nations Series" that have fallen under our notice, we deem this by far the best written, and, in general, best prepared for the purpose in view. It was, in fact, no great task for the veteran writer on Egypt and kindred subjects of ancient history to collect and arrange an amount of particularly interesting Egyptian lore sufficient to fill a small volume. But he has admirably acquitted himself of the task, especially as regards diction. Some of his descriptions—like that of the country at the beginning—will charm young and old, and all will be found worthy of attentive perusal. As a true history, the book is, perhaps, written with too much enthusiasm for the subject and too great faith in the contents of monumental

records—a general failing of Egyptologists and Assyriologists. Yet, kept in check by his reverence for the Bible, Prof. Rawlinson sins in this respect much less than others. Whenever, indeed, Bible and monuments are apparently in conflict, he shyly withdraws from the weighing of the debatable testimony. It is regard for the short chronology of the Hebrews, for instance, which makes him speak so very guardedly of the hoary antiquity of Egyptian civilization: "A consecutive series of monuments carries the date of the first civilization at least as far back as B. C. 2700—probably further." Occasionally a Biblical narrative is broadly introduced, such as the story of Sarah in the harem of Pharaoh, which is related with a serious consideration of motives—"as Josephus thinks" and "as others have surmised"—which is calculated to make critics smile. In writing this book, the septuagenarian author had chiefly young readers before his eyes, but there are lines in which the abominations of Egypt are set forth with too little reserve. All pedantry and dryly learned discussions are avoided. The forms used in rendering Egyptian names are plain and uniform. There was, however, no reason, as far as we know, for clinging to the long-discarded form *Shafra*, as name of the builder of the "second" pyramid, the Chephren of the Greeks, and Khafra of Brugsch, Lauth, Maspero, Petrie, and other recent Egyptologists. The two small maps contained in the book are poor, that of "the Fayoum" especially abounding in misprinted names: *Tamich*, for *Tamieh*; *Benisonef*, for *Benisouef*; *Hali*, for *Hati*, etc. The illustrations, which are taken from the author's larger 'History of Ancient Egypt,' are, on the other hand, very good.

The Story of the Normans, told chiefly in relation to their Conquest of England. By Sarah Orne Jewett. [The Story of the Nations.] G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1887.

THE romantic history of the Normans has found a worthy chronicler in Miss Jewett, who has made out of her material one of the most interesting volumes of the series. The title-page would lead one to fear lest the earlier history of the Normans and their adventures in the South be somewhat neglected for the English conquest. It is not so, however. The whole career of the Normans is well told: their life in the North, the annals of the duchy, and the adventurous conquest of southern Italy and Sicily. Only, our sense of proportion and completeness would have been better satisfied if this last subject had been carried out a little further—to the death of William the Good, the end of the Norman period in Sicily, as the death of Henry Beauclerc was in England. The account of the peasants' revolt we will mention as particularly good. There are many excellent illustrations, especially from the Bayeux Tapestry; but we cannot see the pertinence of a full view of Canterbury Cathedral and the doorway of Chartres Cathedral to a history of the Norman period.

The German Classics, from the Fourth to the Nineteenth Century. With Biographical Notices, Translations into Modern German, and Notes, by F. Max Müller, M. A. 2 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1886.

THIS work was originally issued in 1858, but, while the plan of it remains unchanged, it has been thoroughly revised and rearranged in order to accompany Scherer's 'History of German Literature.' The main work of this edition was done by Prof. Franz Lichtenstein of the University of Breslau, who did not live to complete his task. The new selections are largely due to the judgment and taste of Prof. Scherer himself, and it

is only by a large courtesy that the present volumes can bear the name of the original editor. Most of the illustrative extracts previous to the seventeenth century have been changed. In that dreary period of German literature, the jewels were so few that the popular acceptance has dictated a selection, in the main uniform, in the two editions. The second volume, beginning with the reign of Frederick the Great, is substantially a new work. The first edition embraced the classic writers of the eighteenth century; the present edition includes extracts from the writers of the Romantic school, extending to Grillparzer and Heine. Translations into modern German accompany the extracts from the literature before the fifteenth century. The authorship of these translations is not ordinarily given, although it should have been indicated. The translations of Simrock have been most often employed. While opinions may differ as to the value of all collections which can represent only imperfectly, by fragmentary extracts, the masterpieces of literature, especially the drama or longer epics and prose works, a selection of lyric poems may fairly represent the best of their authors.

This collection embraces both poetry and prose, and includes specimens of the Latin poetry and hymns. Its selections from early German are reasonably complete. It would have been well to have included the Strassburg Oaths, both from their historical and their linguistic interest. The 'Merigarto' is omitted here, as is all mention of it in Scherer's History. In general, the leading authors are represented, though occasionally we miss such names as Tatian and Tauler and the Winsbeke, and such works as the Wartburg 'Sängerkrieg.' The introductory notes prefixed to the extracts have been revised and abridged. In these a marked improvement is manifest over the first edition. They contain brief outlines of the author's life, and indicate the standard editions of his works. On the whole, this selection will serve admirably its purpose as a companion volume to Scherer's History, and will be useful to all students as a general reference-book in German literature.

The Dictionary of Religion: An Encyclopædia of Christian and Other Religious Doctrines, Denominations, Sects, Heresies, Ecclesiastical Terms, History, Biography, etc., etc. Edited by the Rev. William Blenham, B.D., F.S.A. Cassell & Co. 1887. Pp. 1,148.

BEGUN, as the preface announces, by the late Rev. J. H. Blunt, this work would appear to have been intended as a combination, revised and enlarged, of his 'Dictionary of Doctrinal and Historical Theology' (London, 1870) and his 'Dictionary of Sects, Heresies, and Schools of Thought' (London, 1874). In turning over his material to Mr. Blenham, the publishers made a happy choice. For the avowed High Church standpoint of Blunt, at least in the volumes referred to, has been substituted an attitude of

attempted and remarkably well-sustained impartiality. The editor declares his purpose to be that of describing "doctrines and practices far removed from" his own "in a simply informative rather than dogmatic spirit," and of always finding, "if possible, the point of unity in things differing"; and it must be said that this admirable plan is executed with great fidelity. The different denominations are allowed to speak for themselves. With commendable self-restraint, even the anti-Episcopal arguments of Presbyterians and Independents are stated by Mr. Blenham in their full force, though briefly, and are left unanswered—though the Episcopal position is given, of course, elsewhere. In cases, too, where the two sides have to be considered together (in the article on the "Unity of the Church," for example), we get the summing-up of a judge rather than the argument of an advocate. Most difficult of all, the articles dealing with what the preface calls "The Great Controversy"—Ritualism in the Church of England is meant—are made almost absolutely colorless. Conflicting views and practices are fairly stated; the recent decisions of the ecclesiastical courts, with the grounds of them, are given; and there the matter is left. It would be more than human nature for an author handling living controversies to be able completely to efface himself, and close scrutiny will reveal some evidence, mostly in the use of significant adjectives, that Mr. Blenham's sympathies are against the High-Church movement. In biographical articles such as those on Pusey, Maurice, Kingsley, Stanley, and Colenso, there is almost necessarily a measure of self-betrayal; but a high degree of impartiality must be set down as one of the reasons why this 'Dictionary' is destined to supersede such forerunners in the same field as Farrar, Eadie, and Staunton.

We would also praise its lucid compactness. It has not, of course, the immense range of Herzog, even in the greatly condensed English translation. The lopping off of purely Scriptural topics, which are turned over to the strictly "Bible" dictionaries, makes possible a great saving of space over the last-mentioned work. But, in addition to that, the general reader will be thankful for the display of a happy faculty of putting into a paragraph the essence of many a page. The result is a convenience in consultation (greatly heightened by abundant cross-references) which is sure to make this a favorite book of reference with all who seek condensed information on the subjects with which it deals.

The doctrinal position of the 'Dictionary,' reflected in such articles as those on Atonement, Justification, and Eternal Punishment, is fairly enough described in the preface as being that of the "intelligent members of the Church of England." Mr. Bagehot was probably right in saying that the only one of the Articles seriously taken by them is the one forbidding works of supererogation. The attitude towards science is one of uneasy tolerance. Adam and Eve are very

likely allegorical, and Evolution is not so black as it has been painted; but the usual theological muzzles are applied as soon as science begins to utter conclusions which theology has not yet been educated into admitting. Ecclesiastical terminology is very fully explained. The member of the Cabinet who defined an archdeacon as "a deacon who performs archidiaconal functions," would not have been reduced to such straits by the challenge of an Opposition orator if he had had this work at his elbow. Some of the historical articles are written in apparent oblivion of late researches. Thus, under "Polycarp," no reference is made to the new date of his death, so important in its bearing, for example, on the authorship of the fourth Gospel, ingeniously argued for by Waddington twenty years ago, and since adopted by such differing authorities as Renan, Hilgenfeld, and Harnack. This omission is by no means characteristic, however.

On its American side we should naturally expect to find this English 'Dictionary' rather weak. Relative unimportance from the point of view cannot, nevertheless, excuse antiquated knowledge, much less inexactness. It is somewhat surprising that the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States figures in these pages only incidentally and obscurely in the article, "United States of America, Religion in." In fact, the American Presbyterian Church is accorded more attention—and it would have borne still more, inasmuch as its statistics, as given, are not only belated, but inaccurate. To say that Harvard is "distinctly Unitarian" (p. 547) is to confuse past and present. Under "Missions" we find perhaps the most remarkable of all the deficiencies, as related to the cis-Atlantic reader, in the absence of any allusion to the missionary activities of the American churches. The same title reminds us that no explanation is given of the term "mission," recently imported from Roman Catholic into Anglican usage.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- A Week Away from Time. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.25.
 Barrett, F. The Great Hesper. D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
 Benjamin, Fanny Nichols. The Sunny Side of Shadow: Reveries of a Convalescent. Boston: Ticknor & Co.
 Besant, W. To Call Her Mine: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
 Birrel, A. Obituary Dicta, Second Series. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.
 Cracker Joe. [No Name Series.] Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.
 Dudley, M. V. Poetry and Philosophy of Goethe, Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.
 Foville, Prof. A. de. La France Économique Année 1887. Paris: Armand Colin et Cie.
 Haddock, F. C. The Life of George C. Haddock. Funk & Wagnalls. \$2.
 Harper, J. C. Law of Inter-State Commerce, especially as applied to the Act to Regulate Commerce, approved February 4, 1887. With Notes of Decisions. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.
 Hints on Early Education and Nursery Discipline. Funk & Wagnalls. 60 cents.
 Historical sketch of the South Church (Reformed) of New York City. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. \$1.
 Jameson, Dr. F. J. Willem Usselinx, Founder of the Dutch and Swedish W. I. Companies. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.
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 Schaff-Jackson. Encyclopedia of Living Divines and Christian Workers of all Denominations in Europe and America. Funk & Wagnalls.

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